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1986-87

Ministry of Social Services and Housing

Services for People



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Ministry of Social Services and Housing,
Victoria, British Columbia

The Honourable Claude H. Richmond
Minister of Social Services and Housing
Victoria, British Columbia

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the Annual Report of the
Ministry of Social Services and Housing for fiscal year
1986-87.

JAMES CARTER,
Deputy Minister of Social Services and Housing



Office of the Minister of Social Services and Housing
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia

The Honourable Robert G. Rogers,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Social Services and
Housing for fiscal year 1986-87 is respectfully submitted.

CLAUDE H. RICHMOND
Minister of Social Services and Housing



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

This year has brought many challenges as well as opportunities and rewards.

The goal of the Ministry of Social Services and Housing is to assist individuals in need while at the same time helping them to become self-sufficient. This is reflected in an overall decrease in the income assistance caseload this fiscal year.

Pilot projects for the vocational assessment and job placement of employable clients have met with sufficient success to warrant expansion of these services to other centres.

During this fiscal year social housing agencies became part of the ministry. In 1986, the creation of \$80 million of social housing construction targeted to low income families, the elderly and the disabled through federal-provincial cost-sharing provided the added benefit of generating 2,100 jobs.

I would also like to mention that, as Chairman of the Committee on Social Planning, I have had the opportunity to meet citizens throughout the province. Their thoughtful briefs will be valuable in future planning for social services delivery.

I look forward to the coming year with enthusiasm, and I believe that with the continued support of other provincial ministries and assistance from the federal government, it will be an active and constructive one.

Claude Richmond, Minister
Ministry of Social Services and Housing



MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY MINISTER

Since becoming deputy minister in April, 1987, I have gained an increasing awareness of the untiring efforts of the ministry's staff who continue to meet the ever present challenge of the ministry's mandate. Their task is not an easy one, nor should their contributions go unrecognized.

As the ministry moves towards a systematic review of all its programs, we must ensure that the objectives of each program are clearly indicated and that specific indicators of the effectiveness of ministry programs are developed and put in place. These objectives and measures of performance will be reflected in future annual reports as the transition from administrative reporting to goal-oriented reporting takes place.

R.J. Carter, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Social Services and Housing



HIGHLIGHTS 1986-87

The ministry continued to work towards the goal of not only helping people during their times of need, but also assisting them to regain or achieve self-sufficiency. During the year, an improved program for exempting earnings for employable income assistance recipients was implemented. On September 1, 1986, the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Regulations were amended to permit employable income assistance recipients to retain an additional 25 per cent of their earnings. The comforts allowance, school start-up allowance, and special Christmas allowance were all increased this year. In addition, the federal sales tax credit was exempted from calculation of income assistance benefits. Day care subsidies to low income families were also increased.

Funding was provided for a total of 39 transition houses and 8 safe homes, providing emergency shelter for women and children who find themselves victims of family violence and in need of a safe retreat. Funding was also provided for 23 hostels for single persons.

In October, an increase in the support portion of GAIN for Handicapped was announced. The maximum for shelter allowance for both basic income assistance and GAIN for Handicapped was also increased.

Pilot projects were introduced in Kamloops and in the Surrey-White Rock area to facilitate the vocational assessment and placement of employable income assistance recipients by creating a computerized inventory of client work skills, training needs and job readiness.

The ministry is charged with responsibility for protecting children from abuse and neglect. Early in this fiscal year the ministry took responsibility for chairing an inter-ministry committee on sexual abuse of children in British Columbia.

Recognizing that traditional attitudes towards adoption have changed, the ministry issued a background paper on the establishment of an adult adoption reunion registry. Submissions were invited from adult adoptees, adoptive parents, and interested individuals and associations. More than 1,000 submissions were received. They overwhelmingly supported the establishment of an adoption registry.

To help provide for the almost 3,500 children in care living in foster homes, the rate for foster care was increased at the beginning of the fiscal year.

In keeping with the ministry's commitment to deinstitutionalization by establishing mentally handicapped people in the community, funds were provided to renovate or maintain 18 existing group homes, as well as to establish 6 new group homes.

The ministry continued to contract for service by funding over 140 projects in more than 50 communities throughout British Columbia.

In the field of social housing, the ministry delivered 1,886 social housing units to needy senior citizens, older singles, families with children and the disabled in 1986. This was accomplished through a joint federal-provincial cost-sharing agreement. In 1987, plans for the construction of a further 1,465 social housing units were announced, also cost-shared with the federal government.



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SECTION I
INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING MANDATE

Under the Ministry of Human Resources Act, the ministry has responsibility for matters relating to social and public welfare and social assistance. Within this jurisdiction, the ministry administers a range of social service and income security programs. These programs may be broadly divided into the following types of services: income assistance services which help people in financial need; services to assist individuals to retain or regain employment; services for families and children which support families and protect the safety and well-being of children; residential programs and services for mentally handicapped individuals; Pharmacare, which provides assistance with the cost of prescription drugs; and services for seniors.

Policy, priorities and program content for these services and programs are determined by government through legislation and through cabinet and ministerial direction.

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING IS TO HELP PEOPLE IN NEED BY PROVIDING THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOD, SHELTER AND CLOTHING; TO PROTECT CHILDREN WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM NEGLECT AND ABUSE AND TO PROVIDE CARE FOR, AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO, THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED TO ASSIST THEIR INTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY. SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN A MANNER WHICH PROMOTES THE ACHIEVEMENT OF MAXIMUM INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY, WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

THE FOLLOWING GOALS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ACHIEVE THIS MISSION:

1. TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, TO ASSIST THOSE PERSONS TO RETAIN OR REGAIN FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE.

The ministry's financial assistance programs are aimed at providing a basic income for people in need and assisting those individuals to become independent and self-supporting. In addition to its basic support programs, the ministry aims:

- To restructure programs to help income assistance recipients to regain employment.
- To provide day care subsidies to assist single parents and low income earners to retain or regain employment or participate in training.

2. TO INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS AND TO PROTECT CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NEGLECT OR ABUSE IN A MANNER WHICH MAINTAINS OR RESTORES THE INTEGRITY OF THE FAMILY WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

The ministry's Family and Children's Services Program assists families to maintain or resume responsibility for their children. The legislative requirements to investigate allegations that children are in need of protection represent a major responsibility which may involve finding appropriate adoption placements for children without families and providing temporary residential care for children in the care of the Superintendent of Family and Child Service. Specific priorities include:

- To build on the existing network of family support services, including services to adolescents.
- To rationalize the management and use of the various types of child care resources.
- To find adoptive homes for children with special needs.

3. TO PROVIDE CARE FOR AND/OR SUPPORT SERVICES WHICH ASSIST MENTALLY HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS.

ALS TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM INDEPENDENCE AND PARTICIPATE AS FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR COMMUNITIES.

Achievement of this goal requires a continuum of support services, from infancy to adulthood, to assist families with mentally handicapped members to carry out their parental responsibilities. Specifically, the ministry aims:

- To provide services for mentally handicapped infants, children and their families.
- To assist families with caring for mentally handicapped members and, where this is not feasible, to assist mentally handicapped adults to establish themselves in community living arrangements.
- To restructure training and day programs for mentally handicapped adults living in the community, to more effectively assist their integration into the community.
- To provide co-ordination and monitoring of services to ensure the ongoing safety and well-being of mentally handicapped individuals in community living arrangements.
- To assist in the development of additional housing units for handicapped and disadvantaged people.

In pursuing these goals, the ministry will be guided by the following principles:

- TO PROVIDE STRONGER INCENTIVES TO WORK THAN TO REMAIN ON INCOME ASSISTANCE.
- TO PROVIDE SUPPORT SERVICES TO FAMILIES AND THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED WHICH ARE GOAL-ORIENTED AND AIMED AT ACHIEVING THE MAXIMUM INDEPENDENCE POSSIBLE.

- TO PROMOTE A TEAM APPROACH WITH OTHER MINISTRIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE.
- TO ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY OF PURCHASED SERVICES AND EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS.
- TO ACHIEVE EQUITY AND CONSISTENCY IN RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY WHILE ALLOWING FOR DECENTRALIZED DECISION MAKING.

LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED BY MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING

The Ministry of Social Services and Housing (formerly Human Resources) administered the following legislation during the 1986-87 fiscal year. Copies may be obtained from the Queen's Printer.

Ministry of Human Resources Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 274.

This act establishes the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Human Resources in all matters relating to social and public welfare and income assistance.

Guaranteed Available Income for Need Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 158, (Consolidated Sept. 1985) and Regulations (BC Regulation 479-76, Consolidated January 1986) and Amendments.

This act and its regulations provide for essential financial assistance and social services for eligible individuals and families. The social services include day care, family support services, residential care, counselling and rehabilitation services.

Adoption Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 4 (Con- solidated Sept. 1985) and Regulations (BC Regulation 278-78) and Amendments.

The purpose of this act is to provide the same rights and privileges for adopted children as for children born to parents in a family.

Child Paternity and Support Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 49, (Consolidated Jan. 1984) and Amendments.

This act provides the mothers of children born out of wedlock with the rights to obtain financial support for the children from the fathers.

Family and Child Service Act, RSBC 1980, Chapter 11, (Consolidated Sept. 1985).

This act provides statutory procedures for protection and care of children who are neglected, abused, abandoned or living without proper supervision or guardianship.

Human Resource Facility Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 185, (Consolidated Oct. 1982) and Regulations (BC Regulation 586-76).

This act and its regulations authorize provincial grants to nonprofit organizations for the development of residential facilities or centres for children, disabled persons and senior citizens.

Community Resource Board Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 58, (Consolidated Jan. 1984) and Regulations (BC Regulation 655-75).

This act empowers the government to establish Human Resource and Health Centres where provincial income assistance programs, social services and health services may be administered by boards composed of local citizens.

Social Workers Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 389, (Consolidated Jan. 1984).

This act permits the government to establish the Board of Registration for social workers.

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 385, Regulations (BC Regulation 298-77, Consolidated January 1984).

This act provides for payment of monthly cash assistance to eligible residents of the province who receive Old Age Security benefits and pay more than 30 per cent of their income for rent.

Residence and Responsibility Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 364, (Consolidated Sept. 1984) and Regulations (BC Regulations 283-71 and 284-71).

This act requires municipalities to contribute to the costs of specific social assistance programs for persons in need.*

* Municipalities have not had to contribute since 1982.

Effective August 14, 1986, the Minister of Social Services and Housing became responsible for administering the following certain acts and regulations pertaining to housing.

Home Conversion and Leasehold Loan Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 170, (Consolidated March, 1983), Regulations (BC Regulation 439/74, Consolidated July, 1984).

This act provides financial assistance to families constructing residences on leasehold property and provides financial assistance to individuals and corporations for conversion of residential, commercial and industrial premises to create new rental housing.

Homeowner Interest Assistance Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 70, (Consolidated November, 1986), and British Columbia Home Program Regulation (BC Regulation 458/82 Consolidated January, 1984).

This act establishes a program which provides financial assistance to homeowners to reduce the effect of high mortgage interest rates.

Home Purchase Assistance Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 172, (Consolidated November, 1986), Regulation (BC Regulation 244/83, Consolidated May, 1986) and Cost of Residence Regulation (BC Regulation 269/81, Consolidated July, 1983).

This act provides loans and grants to assist individuals to purchase homes.

Housing Construction (Elderly Citizens) Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 184, and Senior Citizens Housing Regulation (BC Regulation 164/81).

This act provides financial assistance to local government and nonprofit societies for the construction of low cost rental housing units for elderly citizens of low income.

Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing Act, RSBC 1979, Chapter 277.

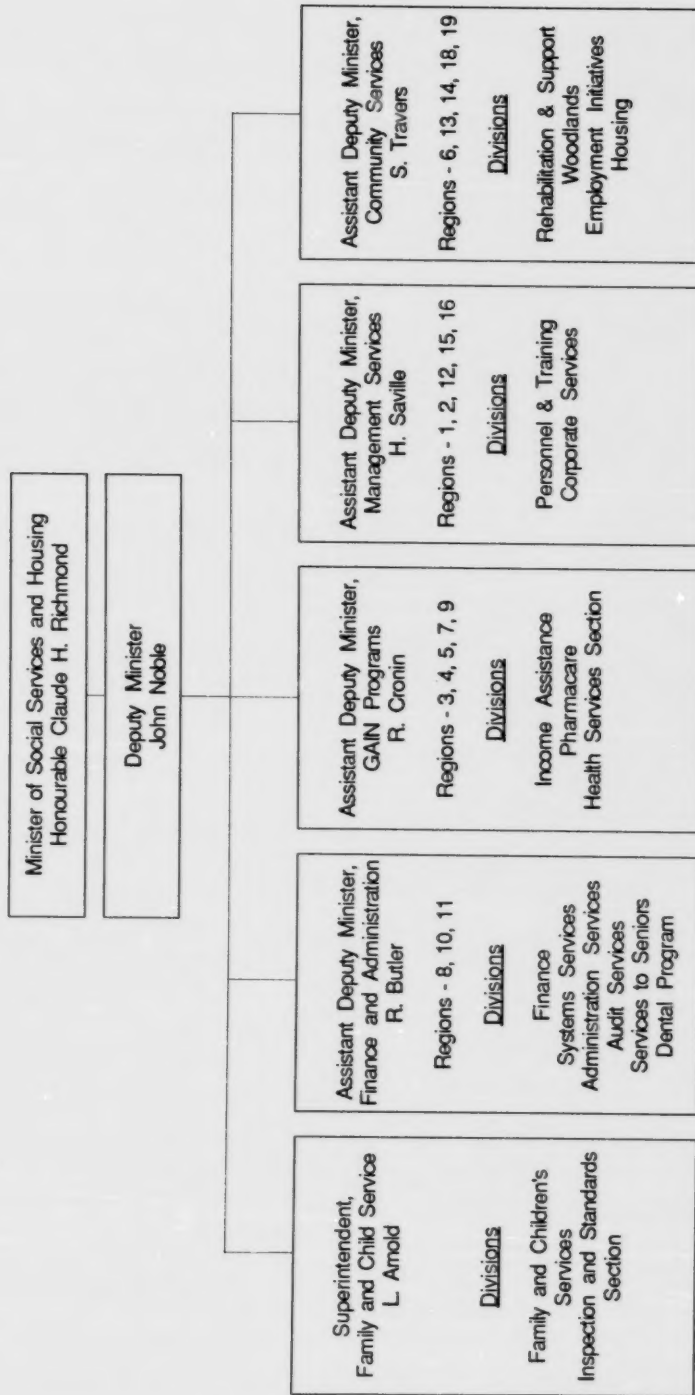
This act authorizes continuation of the British Columbia Housing Management Commission and authorizes the commission to act as agents of the crown. Order-in-council 1578 assigns powers, functions and duties to the Ministry of Social Services and Housing.

Provincial Home Acquisition Act, RSBC 1967, Chapter 39, (Consolidated September 1976) and Amendment, Regulation No. 1, (BC Regulation 228/67, Consolidated January, 1985), No. 2, (BC Regulation 106/69, Consolidated January, 1985) and Eligibility Committee Regulation (BC Regulation 120/71).

The provisions of this act, which allow the government to provide grants or loans for the purposes of home acquisition for eligible persons, have been supplanted by the Home Purchase Assistance Act. The statute remains in place in order to administer outstanding loans.

SECTION II
ADMINISTRATION AND
ORGANIZATION

**Figure 1: Ministry of Social Services and Housing
Organization Chart, March 31, 1987**



ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

MINISTRY ADMINISTRATION
AND ORGANIZATION

The ministry is structured on a regional model. Program support services, which are centralized within the ministry headquarters, serve to complement the regional functions.

The regional, institutional, and headquarters administrative levels are interrelated and designed to decentralize the decision making process wherever possible. The deputy minister and executive committee provide direction and control of the organization.

The ministry executive consists of five assistant deputy ministers, including the Superintendent of Family and Child Service, who report to the deputy minister. The Superintendent of Family and Child Service reports through the deputy minister to the minister.

Executive committee members advise the deputy minister on policy and administration, and assume overall responsibility for assigned programs and the delivery of all services in designated geographic regions of the province. The deputy minister is responsible to the minister for ensuring that the ministry's policies, priorities and program content, as determined by government, are properly administered.

Assignments to executive committee members as of March 31, 1987, are shown on the organization chart.

DIVISIONAL ORGANIZATION

As of March 31, 1987, there were four program divisions. These were Income Assistance Division, Family and Children's Services Division, Rehabilitation and Support Services Division, and Pharmacare, with its Medical Services Section. The major responsibilities of program divisions include program review, coordination and monitoring, policy development and documentation, and consultative services for regional staff on policy and procedural questions.

There are five other divisions providing centralized support services to executive committee and to field staff in the regions. These include Finance Division (which also admini-

sters the GAIN for Seniors benefits, Bus Pass Program and the SAFER Program), Personnel and Staff Training Division, Administrative Services Division, Systems Services Division and Corporate Services Branch (which encompasses Research, Evaluation and Statistics Division, Federal-Provincial Agreements Division, Information Services Division and Policy and Planning Services).

SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM

In order to provide service to qualifying clients throughout the province, the ministry has developed a network of 159 offices throughout British Columbia. These offices are supplemented by an additional 19 special resource units. District offices are responsible for assessing need under the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Act and for providing income assistance and employment rehabilitation services to clients. In addition to providing a range of support services such as child day care, infant development, and child care counsellors, the ministry's district offices are also responsible for investigating child abuse complaints and bringing matters to court when it appears that a child is in need of protection under the Family and Child Service Act. District office staff supervise the placement of children in the care and custody of the Superintendent of Family and Child Service (children-in-care) in foster homes or other resources and assist with the planning and community placements for mentally handicapped individuals. Only the Pharmacare Program, SAFER, Bus Pass and GAIN for Seniors Supplement are provided through central offices in Victoria.

District offices are staffed by financial assistance workers who work mainly with applicants for income assistance, and by social workers who provide family services and protection services for children. These staff are supported by clerical staff, employment rehabilitation officers and regional inspectors. Rehabilitation officers and regional inspectors may operate from a centralized regional office. The organization of each district office varies depending on the needs of the community being served. Each office is under the direction of a district manager.

REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

The province has been divided into 18 management regions, each under the direction of a regional manager. Regional managers are accountable for the delivery of social services and income assistance programs within their regions. They supervise the activities of the district offices within their regions and ensure that quality service is delivered according to established policy. Regional managers have significant autonomy in managing staff, deploying resources, reviewing and approving contracted services, and recommending grants to community agencies. They are also responsible for approving services in exceptional situations, co-ordinating regional personnel and staff training activities, formulating budgets and handling public inquiries and client appeals.

The ministry's 18 regions and district offices are:

- Region 1: Vancouver East** (regional office and six district offices).
- Region 2: Vancouver Burrard** (regional office and nine district offices).
- Region 3: Okanagan** (regional office in Vernon); district offices in Grand Forks, Kelowna (two offices), Oliver, Penticton (two offices), Summerland, Vernon (two offices), Westbank and Winfield.
- Region 4: Kootenays** (regional office in Nelson); district offices in Castlegar, Cranbrook, Creston, Fernie, Invermere, Kimberley, Nelson, New Denver, Sparwood and Trail.
- Region 5: Prince George-Cariboo** (regional office in Prince George); district offices in Fort St. James, McBride, Mackenzie, Prince George (four offices), Quesnel, Vanderhoof and Williams Lake.
- Region 6: Fraser Valley** (regional office in Clearbrook); district offices in Abbotsford, Aldergrove, Chilliwack (two offices), Clearbrook, Hope, Langley and Mission.
- Region 7: Prince Rupert / Bulkley Valley and North / South Peace River** (regional office in Prince George); district offices in Burns Lake, Cassiar, Chetwynd, Dawson Creek,

Fort Nelson, Fort St. John, Hazelton, Houston, Kitimat, Prince Rupert, Queen Charlotte City, Smithers and Terrace.

- Region 8: Victoria West** (regional office in Victoria); district offices in Cowichan, Duncan, Esquimalt, Langford, Sidney and Sooke.
- Region 9: Kamloops Mainline** (regional office in Kamloops); district offices in Ashcroft, Clearwater, Golden, Kamloops (four offices), Lillooet, Merritt, Princeton, Revelstoke, Salmon Arm and 100 Mile House.
- Region 10: Vancouver Island North** (regional office in Nanaimo); district offices in Campbell River (two offices), Courtenay (two offices), Nanaimo (three offices), Parksville, Port Alberni and Port Hardy.
- Region 11: Victoria East** (regional office in Victoria); district offices in Victoria (six offices), and Saanich.
- Region 12: Fraser South and Vancouver West** (regional office in Vancouver); district offices in Delta (two offices), Richmond (three offices) and Vancouver (four offices).
- Region 13: Fraser North** (regional office in New Westminster); district offices in Burnaby (five offices) and New Westminster (two offices).
- Region 14: North Shore-Sunshine Coast** (regional office in North Vancouver); district offices in Bella Coola, North Vancouver (three offices), Powell River, Sechelt, Squamish and West Vancouver.
- Region 15: Vancouver Downtown-Strathcona** (one regional and seven district offices).
- Region 16: Vancouver South** (one regional and nine district offices).
- Region 18: Surrey** (regional office in Surrey); district offices in Cloverdale, Surrey (five offices), Whalley and White Rock.
- Region 19: Coquitlam-Maple Ridge** (regional office in Coquitlam); district offices in Coquitlam (two offices), Maple Ridge (two offices), Port Coquitlam and Port Moody.

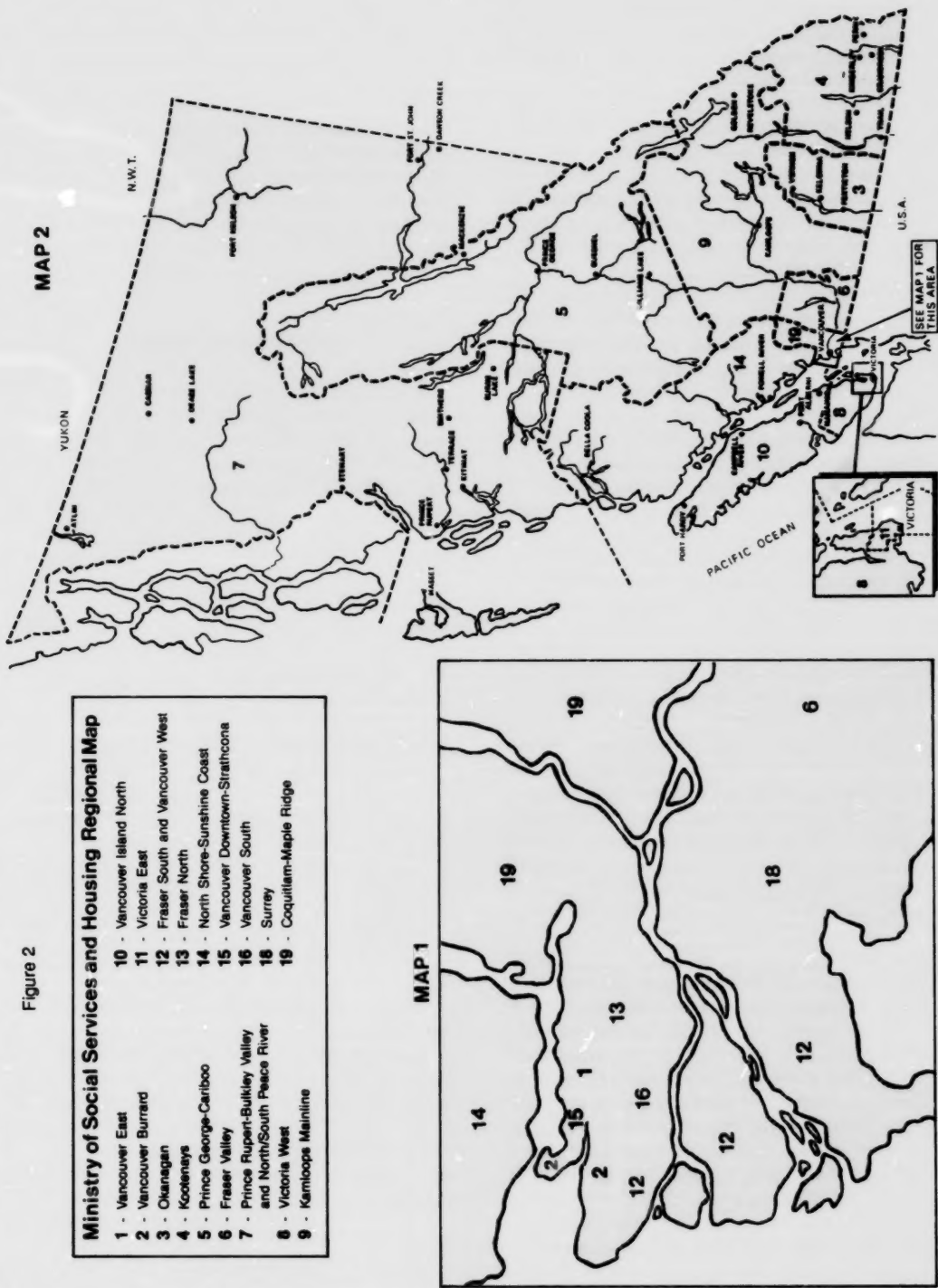


Figure 2

In addition to several district offices, each region may have one or more specialized offices for administering support services such as child day care, foster home recruitment and child care resource placement services.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The Finance Division is responsible for all financial and accounting functions in the ministry and centrally administers several of the ministry's programs.

In fulfilling these responsibilities, the division develops and establishes financial policies and procedures, facilitates financial planning and provides support in the budget process to program and executive staff. The division processes payments for ministry service delivery programs and administrative expenditures and prepares revenue claims for the Province of British Columbia under the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP). In addition the division administers the GAIN for Seniors Supplement Program, the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Program (SAFER), the Bus Pass Program, the Dental Services Program and the ministry's financial policies.

During the year, the Finance Division assumed responsibility for the B.C. Second Mortgage Program, the B.C. Home Program, the Conversion Loan Program and various other housing financing and lease programs. After assuming this responsibility, the Home Mortgage System was implemented to facilitate the accounting for and management of the B.C. Second Mortgage Program and the B.C. Home Program.

Several major initiatives were completed during the 1986-87 fiscal year. The ministry's accounting manual was completely revised and reorganized to reflect the current financial management environment in the government. The GAIN Payment System was enhanced to provide much better accounting for and control of cheques issued manually in the ministry's district offices. The GAIN Payment System access matrix was modified to improve both operating efficiency and control. The three Children-in-Care Payment Systems, previously operated independently, were combined into

one provincial system to achieve cost savings and to provide better management information. A prototype day care payment system providing more timely payments to caregivers, more efficient administration in the field and better management information was implemented in three of the ministry's regions. Basic training programs in financial administration were completed for all district managers and supervisors of administrative services. The procedures for reversing unclaimed and cancelled GAIN cheques have been improved to provide much more up to date individual client history information and more current expenditure information.

SYSTEMS SERVICES

Systems Services Division is responsible for the development, operation and maintenance of the ministry's electronic data processing systems in accordance with the ministry's Information System Plan as approved by Treasury Board.

During the 1986-87 fiscal year, the division's major priorities included the provision of improved financial and control procedures to meet the requirements of the comptroller's office. The most important improvement for 1986-87 in this respect was the introduction of an imprest cheque control component to the GAIN payment system.

Other accomplishments for 1986-87 included the amalgamation of the Vancouver child-in-care pay system with the provincial child-in-care pay system and significant technological improvement to the ministry Management Information System.

AUDIT SERVICES

Audit Services Division monitors ministry operations and systems to evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control systems, and to determine whether policy is correctly and uniformly administered throughout the ministry. These audits are planned, coordinated and executed on a cyclical basis to help achieve the ministry's operational goals.

Audit Services Division is responsible to the office of the deputy minister. This organizational structure assures that audit findings and recommendations will be considered and followed up at the highest management level. It also allows the degree of independence needed to achieve audit objectives. Audit appraisal activities are co-ordinated through an audit committee which provides a direct link with the ministry executive committee. The audit committee is structured to endorse and support the activities of the Audit Services Division and to promote a high degree of interest in establishing and maintaining good systems of internal control.

Table 1
Audits Completed, 1986-87

Ministry Regional Offices	2
Ministry District and Resource Offices	54
Nonprofit Organizations Funded by the Ministry	2
System Audits	1
Special Audits	5

CORPORATE SERVICES BRANCH

The Corporate Services Branch is responsible for development and co-ordination of social and economic research and analysis; policy and program evaluation; intergovernmental negotiations and agreements; and production and release of information to the public.

Branch divisions include Policy/Planning and Legislation; Research, Evaluation and Statistics; Federal-Provincial Agreements; and Information Services.

Policy/Planning and Legislation

This division is accountable for the provision of general policy analysis and planning recommendations to the minister, deputy minister, executive committee and senior managers within the ministry. The division also provides consultation and information services to other ministries as required. Policy and planning recommendations are developed from analysis of policies, initiatives and programs within the context of ministry objectives.

The ministry's legislative program is co-ordinated by this division.

During 1986-87, division activities included production of the annual staff allocation report and consultation on its application to individual regions; overall co-ordination of ministry policy and planning with respect to ministry contracts with social service agencies; administration of the process for equitable distribution of government vehicles; and monitoring and updating legislation pertinent to the ministry.

The division also participated on senior planning committees, prepared briefing notes requested by cabinet secretariat and provided an analysis of the potential impact of federal initiatives on ministry programs.

Research, Evaluation and Statistics

The Research, Evaluation and Statistics Division develops and maintains statistical information for program monitoring and evaluation; analyses the potential cost and client impact of policy and program proposals; develops and performs experimental projects to analyse and evaluate programs; and provides consultation to the deputy minister, executive staff, and divisional and regional directors. The division's scope of responsibility includes support for all ministry programs.

During 1986-87, the division continued to develop and enhance computer-based data and statistics for program monitoring, program and policy development, and evaluation and research.

Information Services

Information Services provides information about the ministry's programs and services to the public, the media and special interest groups. The division co-ordinates release of information to the media, develops and distributes material to help field staff with their community education work and provides planning and technical support to the ministry's executive in the area of public relations and information release.

Major activities of the division during 1986-87 included the introduction of a ministry newsletter and an audit of its many publications.

Federal-Provincial Agreements

The objectives of Federal-Provincial Agreements are to ensure that maximum revenues are obtained through federal cost-sharing agreements; that the ministry's position is presented as requested in federal-provincial, inter-provincial and inter-ministerial meetings; and that, in the preparation of ministry program policy, the impact of federal cost-sharing agreements is taken into account.

The branch also provides advice to ministry staff and executive on administrative and financial arrangements with the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs regarding ministry programs for native Indians on and off reserve.

PERSONNEL AND STAFF TRAINING

Personnel Division maintains ministry personnel information and provides a full range of services in the areas of staff recruitment and selection, training, classification and organization, employee relations, occupational health and safety and manpower planning. It also provides professional library services to ministry staff.

The division's services are delivered primarily under the statutory authority of the Public Service Act and the Public Service Labour Relations Act. Specific policies and procedures related to the statutory authority are set by the Ministry of Intergovernmental Relations, Government Personnel Services Division and by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing executive.

Personnel offices are located at Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster (Woodlands) and Prince George.

As of March 31, 1987, there were 4,465 full-time equivalent positions in the ministry. These full-time equivalent positions included 2,466.4 assigned to field services, 1,094.5 assigned to Woodlands, 516.5 assigned to divisions and headquarters and 387.6 to other assignments. The field services positions are primarily social workers, financial assistance workers, rehabilitation officers and administrative support staff. Institutional positions include nurses, health care workers and other staff required to ensure the operation of a residential facility on a 24-hour basis. Headquarters positions include senior administration, divisional, program and staff support positions.

SECTION III
FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT

MINISTRY FINANCIAL DATA

Table 2

Summary of Estimates and Expenditures by Major Program Classification,
1986-87, \$Millions

	Authorized <u>Budget *</u>	Actual <u>Expenditures</u>	Over/(Under) <u>Expenditure</u>
GAIN Programs	902.1	899.7	(2.4)
Rehabilitation & Support Services	149.9	149.8	(0.1)
Pharmacare	163.0	163.6	0.6
Services to Families and Children	129.6	128.8	(0.8)
Services to Seniors	29.2	29.0	(0.2)
Direct Community Services	76.0	76.7	0.7
Administration	37.0	37.3	0.3
Housing	18.2	16.1	(2.1)
TOTAL	1,505.0	1,501.0	(4.0)
	=====	=====	=====

For purposes of program classification, line social worker salaries are treated as direct program costs.

Detailed figures on ministry expenditures are available from Public Accounts, 1986-87 Volume 1, published by the Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations.

- * Main Estimates Voted (details are available from Estimates, Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1987, published by the Ministry of Finance) as adjusted for transfers of funds during the fiscal year.

Figure 3

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING EXPENDITURES BY
MAJOR CLASSIFICATION, 1986-87**

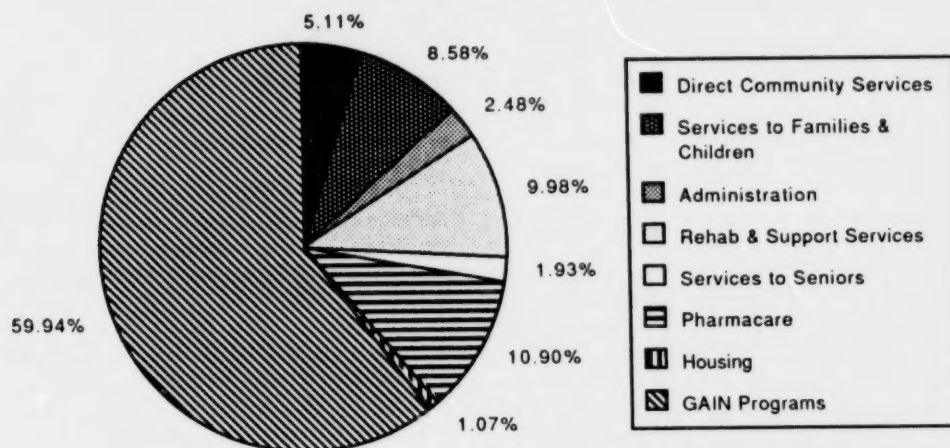


Table 3

Actual Expenditures, Comparison of Fiscal Years 1982-83 to 1986-87 (\$000s)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Income Assistance and GAIN for Handicapped Benefits</u>	<u>Other Ministry Programs</u>	<u>Total Ministry Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$856,354	\$644,626	\$1,500,980
1985-86	883,374	584,699	1,468,073
1984-85	855,197	561,843	1,417,040
1983-84	781,561	517,403	1,298,964
1982-83	609,223	483,168	1,092,391

FEDERAL COST-SHARING IN PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS

The Ministry of Social Services and Housing provides a range of services to families, to children and to people who are disadvantaged because of age, handicap or unemployment. The federal government contributes a significant share of the ministry's operating and program costs by agreement with the province under the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) Act of April 1, 1966.

The CAP accounting office of the ministry's Finance Division is responsible for filing all claims for cost-sharing under CAP. The federal government, however, restricts the types of programs it supports. For example, the ministry provides Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) and Pharmacare to persons 65 years of age and over, but the federal government does not share in the cost of these programs because eligibility is not determined by a test of need.

During the fiscal year 1986-87, ministry expenditures totalled \$1,501 million of which \$1,160 million was eligible for cost-sharing. The province received \$580 million from the federal government with respect to current year expenditures and an additional \$16 million of revenue for adjustments to previous years' claims.

All cost-sharing under CAP is based on claims submitted by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing. To ensure that full advantage is taken of cost-sharing provisions, the ministry consults on an on-going basis with other ministries in the province. In 1986-87, the CAP accounting office recovered \$46 million for other ministries' programs, including \$15 million from cost-sharing of expenditures from previous years. In addition, \$2 million was received from the federal government and distributed to municipalities for CAP cost-sharing of municipal grants to approved agencies.

The ministry also receives revenue from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for the cost of care for registered status Indian children. In 1986-87, the ministry claimed \$13.7 million from INAC.

The majority of social housing programs are cost-shared with the federal government through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Total expenditure by the British Columbia Housing Management Commission (BCHMC) for administering all programs in 1986 was \$34,394,760, of which \$32,924,597 covered programs with federal government cost-sharing arrangements. CMHC's contribution to this expenditure amounted to \$20,351,799.

SECTION IV
FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMS
AND SERVICES

The Family and Children's Services Division addresses the safety and well-being of children and assists with the preservation of the family unit. The statutory authorities under which these services are provided are the Family and Child Service Act, the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Act, the Adoption Act, the Child Paternity and Support Act and the Family Relations Act.

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

The ministry provides services to eligible families who request assistance in carrying out their parental responsibilities. The goals of family support services are to enable children to remain within their own families and communities, and to encourage families to function independently.

Family support programs include Special Services to Children, Family Support Homemakers, Rehabilitation Resources and the Chance Program. These programs are provided under the statutory authority of the GAIN Act (section 2(1)).

Special Services to Children

The objective of this program is to support families in caring for children with exceptional physical, social or behavioral needs so that the children may remain in their own communities.

The services are provided by child care workers employed by private nonprofit societies or private companies under contract with the ministry. Counselling and support services are provided to assist the family in resolving difficulties.

The total expenditure for this program in 1986-87 was \$6,730,131. Approximately 1,324 children and families received these services each month in 1986-87.

Table 4
Special Services to Children, Expenditures,
1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$6,730,131
1985-86	7,102,194
1984-85	6,370,362
1983-84	6,437,266
1982-83	6,679,354

Table 5
Special Services to Children, Activities, 1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Number of Societies/ Agencies on Contract	78*	84	83	82	80
Estimated Number of Children/ Families Served per Month	1,324	1,330	1,397	1,416	1,220
Average Cost per Hour of Service	\$13.72	\$13.02	\$12.13	\$12.00	\$12.00
Estimated Average Monthly Cost per Child/Family	\$424	\$445	\$380	\$379	\$456

*Includes two independent caregivers.

Family Support Homemakers

The objective of this service is to promote and restore the ability of individuals and families to function independently in the community. Service is provided to mentally handicapped adults, parents of handicapped children and for child protection purposes. Homemakers assist with household management and child care.

The ministry purchases homemaker services from both proprietary agencies and non-profit societies at a rate set by the Ministry of Health. Families contribute to the cost of the service according to their income.

Total expenditures for the Family Support Homemaker Program were \$3,958,010 in 1986-87.

Table 6
Family Support Homemakers, Gross Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

Year	Expenditure
1986-87	\$3,958,010
1985-86	3,978,294
1984-85	3,665,092
1983-84	4,043,765 *
1982-83	4,532,843 *

* These figures include salaries paid to employees in government-operated resources.

Children's Rehabilitation Resources

Children's Rehabilitation Resources are special programs which operate within the school setting. These programs help young people who are experiencing great difficulty at school or who have dropped out of school for social or emotional reasons. They are designed to help these young people acquire basic skills which will enable them to re-enter the regular school system or proceed to further training or employment.

The programs are jointly funded by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, the Ministry of Education and local school districts. The Ministry of Social Services and Housing purchases the services of child care workers, who assist with behavior management and provide counselling to students and their families. The Ministry of Social Services and Housing also provides some funding for program expenses, while the Ministry of Education and local school districts provide facilities and teaching staff.

Table 7
Family Support Homemakers, Activities, 1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Number of Nonprofit Societies from which Services were Purchased	88	88	86 *	90	88
Number of Proprietary Agencies from which Services were Purchased	13 **	23	17	15	15
Estimated Number of Families/Individuals Served per Month	1,123	1,145	1,093	1,264	1,137

* Several agencies in the City of Vancouver were amalgamated in 1984-85, for a net reduction of four.

** The number of proprietary agencies includes four independent caregivers.

Admission to these programs is through a local program advisory committee with representation from the school district, the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, the contracting agency and, if appropriate, probation and health personnel. Children are assigned to Rehabilitation Resources programs for a maximum of one school term at a time.

This program is available in most school districts in the province. In 1986-87, there were 123 programs, employing approximately 226 child care workers for approximately 3,667 children. Total expenditures for this program in 1986-87 were \$4,900,896.

Table 8
Rehabilitation Resources, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$4,900,896
1985-86	4,869,067
1984-85	4,694,682
1983-84	4,712,683 *
1982-83	4,566,560 *

* These figures include salaries paid to employees in government-operated resources.

Chance

The Chance Program began in 1979. The objective of the program is to help children with severe mental or physical handicaps to gain academic and social skills in the school setting.

The program was implemented as a result of joint planning between the Ministries of Social Services and Housing and Education. It followed the establishment of policy by the Ministry of Education in 1978 concerning the education of handicapped children.

Personal attendants work with children who require assistance in the classroom with positioning, eating, mobility, going to the washroom and other activities.

In 1986-87, the Ministry of Social Services and Housing contracted with school districts to purchase the services of 457 personal attendants for approximately 1,644 handicapped children.

Total expenditures for the Chance Program in 1986-87 were \$5,904,373. So far, CAP cost-sharing has not been available for the Chance Program because it is provided in a school setting.

Table 10
Chance, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$5,904,373
1985-86	5,487,681
1984-85	5,219,186
1983-84	4,865,244
1982-83	4,765,753

Table 9
Rehabilitation Resources, Activities, 1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Number of Contracted Programs	123	127	139	120	121
Estimated Number of Children Served per School Year	3,667	3,606	3,493	n/a	n/a
Number of Child Care Workers	226	235	228	n/a	n/a

Table 11
Chance, Activities, 1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Number of Chance Contracts	82	76	77	76	70
Number of Personal Attendants	457	429	414	371	356
Number of Children Served	1,644	1,599	1,511	1,339	1,322

CHILD CARE SERVICES

Child Protection Services

Protective services are provided under the Family and Child Service Act. Core programs remained much the same as in the previous year.

Some children who suffer abuse or neglect tend to repeat the pattern of abuse or neglect when they become parents. Only by identifying abusive or neglectful situations and finding help for families and children can we stop this pattern. Every person who has reasonable grounds to believe that a child is in need of protection is responsible for reporting the circumstances to the Superintendent of Family and Child Service or her delegate.

Children's officers have now been appointed in each of the ministry's regions to assist the regional director with responsibilities for child welfare delegated by the superintendent. This includes a special focus on care assessment and public education in child welfare and child protection.

The Inter-Ministry Child Abuse Handbook remains in use to ensure co-operative planning in response to reports of child abuse. Inter-ministry protocols for child abuse reports and investigations are being refined and will be incorporated in a future revision of the handbook.

The demonstration project involving the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council in the development of a child welfare service delivery system on Nuu-chah-nulth reserve lands has made substantial progress.

The Helpline for Children continues to be an important link in the ministry's child protection services. The purpose of the Helpline is to ensure that children who are abused or neglected or adults who believe that children are being abused or neglected can call for help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The reporting of suspected child abuse is a requirement of the Family and Child Service Act.

Child Paternity and Support Services

Under the terms of the Child Paternity and Support Act, the Superintendent of Family and Child Service provides assistance to the mothers of children born out of wedlock. The Child Paternity and Support Program helps unmarried mothers obtain support for their children from the natural fathers and offers counselling to both parents.

Under the program, legal counsel is provided, when necessary, to represent the mother when negotiating an ongoing maintenance agreement, a final lump sum agreement, or a maintenance order when court action is required. If court ordered maintenance payments fall in arrears, legal counsel may be provided to the mother to assist in the legal action required to enforce the original maintenance order.

Total receipts obtained from fathers under the provisions of the Child Paternity and Support Act between April 1, 1986 and March 31, 1987 amounted to \$782,702.

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN-IN-CARE

Children enter the care of the Superintendent of Family and Child Service under the mandate of the Family and Child Service Act. They come into care either at the request of the parents through custody agreements or through a court committal when there are protection concerns. Children also come into care through the Family Relations Act (section 29) when orphaned or through the Adoption Act when relinquished at birth by parents.

The primary objective of the service is to reunite the child with the family. When this is not possible, every effort is made to find an adoptive home which best meets the specific needs of the child. Services are provided under the Family and Child Service Act and the GAIN Act.

During 1986-87, 5,928 children were admitted to care, while for the same period, 6,017 children were discharged. For the fiscal year, 12,849 children received care. At March 31, 1987, the child-in-care caseload was 6,832. This year the ministry initiated a long-term evaluation and planning exercise, the Blueprint. All regions were requested to evaluate present and future service needs in order to determine the effectiveness of developing residential and non-residential resources for children.

Table 12

Number of Children Admitted to Care, by Reason of Admission, During Fiscal Year 1986-87

Reason	Number
<u>SHORT-TERM CARE REQUIRED</u>	
Parental Mental or Emotional Condition	618
Parental Physical Illness	158
Marital Conflict	52
Parent-Child Conflict	988
Awaiting Adoption Placement	61
<u>SPECIAL CARE REQUIRED</u>	
Child's Mental or Emotional Condition	155
Child's Physical Handicap	29
Child's Mental Handicap	31
Child's Emotional Disorder	56

PROTECTION REQUIRED

Physical Abuse	435
Sexual Abuse	414
Abandonment	270
Death of Caregiver (Guardianship Unclear)	14
Absence of Parent(s)	354
Disability of Parent(s)	481
Neglect of Parent(s)	516
Deprivation of Necessary Medical Care	10
Absent from Home and Endangered	128

OTHER

Death of Guardian(s)	60
Transfer of Guardianship or Custody	2
Relinquished for Adoption	13
Request by Other Province or Country	42
* Discontinued Codes (see Tbl 12A)	1,041
TOTAL	5,928

* Note: 1,041 children were admitted to care prior to a change in coding which occurred in mid-1986. These admissions are listed separately in Table 12A.

Table 12A

Number of Children Admitted to Care, by Reason of Admission Based on Discontinued Codes, During Fiscal Year 1986-87

Reason	Number
<u>PARENTAL NEGLECT, CRUELTY, OR DEPRAVITY</u>	
Parental Failure	524
Physical Abuse	88
Desertion or Abandonment	126
Parental Sexual Deviation	54
Failure to Provide Needed Medical Care	7
Parent(s) in Prison	12
<u>PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH CHILD</u>	
Emotional Disturbance	18
Physical Handicap	2
Mental Handicap	9
Delinquent Behavior	-
Runaway Child	10
Unmarried Mother	5
Requires Special Education	5
<u>PARENTAL PROBLEMS</u>	
Parental Illness - Mental	21
Parental Illness - Physical	29
Rehabilitation Plan for Parents	38

OTHER

Parent(s) Deceased	17
Lack of Housing for Family Group	7
Awaiting Adoption	17
Awaiting Permanent Plan	9
Removal From Adoption Home	3
Requested by Other Province	11
Miscellaneous Other	<u>29</u>
TOTAL	1,041

Table 14

Number of Children-In-Care, During and at End of Fiscal Years, 1982-83 to 1986-87

Year	Number of Children	
	During Year	On March 31
1986-87	12,849	6,832
1985-86	13,177	7,204
1984-85	13,407	7,535
1983-84	13,233	7,688
1982-83	14,478	8,132

Table 13

Number of Children Admitted to Care, by Legal Status, During Fiscal Year 1986-87

Legal Status	Number of Children
Family and Child Service (F&CS) Act Agreements	2,551
Before Court (F&CS Act)	3,180
Temporary Wards (F&CS Act)	9
Permanent Wards (F&CS Act)	3
Family Relations Act(FRA) and Other Wards	88
Adoption Act Wards	40
Wards of Other Jurisdictions	<u>57</u>
TOTAL	5,928

Table 15

Number of Children-In-Care, by Age and Legal Status, as of March 31, 1987

Status	Under 3	3-5	6-11	12-15	16-18	Total
Agreements	51	65	184	416	347	1,063
F&CS* Act (Before Court)	132	93	178	164	62	629
F&CS* Act (Temporary Wards)	147	131	211	316	248	1,053
F&CS* Act (Permanent Wards)	113	151	533	890	1,613	3,300
FRA** and Other Wards	5	11	77	168	275	536
Adoption Wards	115	30	14	10	3	172
Other Jurisdiction						
<u>Wards</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>79</u>
TOTAL	564	482	1,216	1,988	2,582	6,832

* Family and Child Service Act

** Family Relations Act

Table 16
Number of Children-In-Care and Legal Status, by Region, as of March 31, 1987

	Before Agreements	Temporary Court Wards	Permanent Wards	FRA* & Other Wards	Adoption Wards	Other Jurisdiction Wards	TOTAL
Region 1	17	33	29	111	15	6	215
Region 2	35	40	61	161	8	4	311
Region 3	98	24	44	160	33	9	377
Region 4	27	16	49	99	6	6	208
Region 5	67	63	97	221	57	20	529
Region 6	56	53	97	232	28	14	487
Region 7	49	60	78	198	107	15	513
Region 8	71	26	45	226	29	6	408
Region 9	66	30	58	234	36	11	442
Region 10	74	42	92	262	42	9	527
Region 11	34	22	37	147	14	3	259
Region 12	81	33	66	213	26	8	431
Region 13	85	42	67	171	22	9	396
Region 14	81	26	42	137	29	6	325
Region 15	4	5	23	66	2	6	107
Region 16	73	41	48	164	11	8	346
Region 18	89	48	75	224	18	13	475
Region 19	56	25	39	172	12	18	326

Wards							
Supervised							
by Other							
Jurisdictions	-	-	6	102	41	1	150
TOTAL	1,063	629	1,053	3,300	536	172	6,832

* Family Relations Act

Table 17
Number of Children-In-Care, by Type of Care, as of March 31, 1987

Type of Care	Number of Children
Foster Home	3,490
Independent Living	441
Parents Home	280
Free Home	202
Adoption Home	378
Runaways	237
Subsidised Resource	1,616
Special Resource	188
TOTAL	6,832

Table 18

Number of Children Discharged from Care of Superintendent of Family and Child Service, by Legal Status, During Fiscal Year 1986-87

<u>Legal Status</u>	<u>Number of Children</u>
F&CS* Act Agreements	2,346
Before Court, F&CS Act	1,284
Temporary Wards	874
Permanent Wards	808
Family Relations Act	
Wards and Others	225
Adoption Act Wards	121
Other Jurisdictions' Wards	52
Supervision Orders	<u>307</u>
TOTAL	6,017

* Family and Child Service Act.

Table 19

Number and Reasons for Discharge of Children-In-Care, During Fiscal Year 1986-87

<u>Reason</u>	<u>Number</u>
Reached Age of Majority	600
Married	5
Deceased	12
Adoption Completed	229
Repatriated	148
Requested Order Refused	89
Withdrawn from Court	263
Agreement Automatically Terminated	192
Guardianship Transferred	227
Returned to Other Jurisdiction	16
Intermittent Care Agreement Ended	34
Parent(s) Condition Improved	972
Family Situation Improved	993
Care Required by Child Completed	667
*Termination of Supervision Order	280
**Discontinued Codes (see Table 19A)	<u>1,290</u>
TOTAL	6,017

* Children who are returned home under a Supervision Order are not discharged until the expiration of the Supervision Order.

** NOTE: 1,290 children were discharged from care prior to a change in coding which occurred in mid-1986. These discharges are listed separately in Table 19A.

Table 19A

Number and Reasons for Discharge of Children-In-Care, Based on Discontinued Codes, During Fiscal Year 1986-87

<u>Reason</u>	<u>Number</u>
Deceased	-
Reached Age of Majority	3
Released to Adoption	219
Apprehended, Not Presented	107
Custody Transferred to Crown (NW)	41
Court Ordered Termination	1
Return to Parents (Court Ordered)	502
Return to Parents (Not Court Ordered)	15
Return to Own Province	-
Other	<u>402</u>
TOTAL	1,290

Foster Care

The primary objective of foster care is to provide good substitute parenting for children who are temporarily unable to live with their own families. The statutory authority for provision of the program is the Family and Child Service Act and the GAIN Act.

Foster care is available in all communities throughout British Columbia for children-in-care up to age 19. Foster parents are thoroughly screened and approved by the ministry before children are placed with them. At year end, 51 per cent of all children in the care and custody of the Superintendent of Family and Child Service were being cared for in foster homes.

The ministry supports foster homes through its funding of training programs for many foster parent regional councils and through funding of the British Columbia Federation of Foster Parent Associations.

The program expenditure for 1986-87 was \$25,162,035.

Table 20
Foster Care and Child-In-Care, Expenditures,
1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$25,162,035
1985-86	25,010,156
1984-85	23,006,269
1983-84	21,693,758
1982-83	21,591,431

Table 21
Basic Monthly Foster Care Maintenance Rates, Effective January 1, 1987

<u>Age of Child</u>	<u>Maintenance</u>	<u>Clothing</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Per Diem</u>
0 - 5 years	\$159.17	\$29.21	\$188.38	\$6.28
6 - 9 years	191.56	35.17	226.73	7.56
10 - 11 years	215.44	41.56	257.00	8.57
12 - 13 years	245.71	42.13	287.84	9.60
14 - 19 years	269.54	50.12	319.66	10.66

Contracted Child Care Resources

The ministry contracts with a number of different types of child care resources for children with special needs who cannot be cared for in foster homes. The statutory mandate for these programs is the Family and Child Service Act (section 16(1)) and the GAIN Act (section 1(c) and 5).

The range of contracted residential care extends from skilled family care (special care homes) for one or two children to specialized treatment in a residential facility for groups of children. Care and treatment goals are defined for all children placed in child care resources to ensure that they are returned home as soon as possible or, if these children cannot return to their families or relatives, prepared for permanent placement in an adoption home. It is the responsibility of each region to contract for its own child care resources. Regions have developed the following resources to meet children's needs:

Table 22
Number of Child Care Resources, 1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Respite Homes	48	42	41	37	29
Receiving, Assessment & Bed Subsidy Homes	91	82	89	73	50
Group Homes:					
Mentally or physically handicapped	8	10	13	12	13
Behaviorally or emotionally disturbed	88	99	111	120	143
Special Care Homes:					
Mentally or physically handicapped	223	196	188	153	193
Behaviorally or emotionally disturbed	232	209	188	178	162
Specialized Resources:					
Mentally or physically handicapped	29	28	32	25	25
Behaviorally or emotionally disturbed	44	46	40	40	45
Non-Residential Resources	45	37	45	41	44
Intensive Child Care Resources	<u>19</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>17</u>
TOTAL	827	772	771	700	721

Respite Resources

In 1986-87, 48 respite homes offered temporary relief to parents caring for handicapped children.

Receiving and Assessment Resources and Bed Subsidy Homes

These regional resources provide bed space for two to six children who require emergency placement. Often when a child first comes into care, short-term emergency care is needed to assess and develop appropriate plans for the child before placement in a foster or other residential care home. The ministry funded 91 receiving and assessment resources and bed subsidy homes in 1986-87.

Group Homes

Group homes operate on either a houseparent or staff model and serve three to eight children. There were 96 group homes providing 24-hour care to children during 1986-87. Group homes may be contracted to provide other services, where appropriate, such as family counselling.

Special Care Homes

Special care homes provide individualized care for one to two severely handicapped or disturbed children in a family setting, rather than in a staffed facility. There were 455 special care homes throughout the province in 1986-87 and 223 of these provided care to handicapped children.

Specialized Residential Resources

These staffed resources, normally society-sponsored, offer a variety of programs for emotionally disturbed or handicapped children who require specialized services. The programs range from training homes for autistic children to resources for adolescents. In 1986-87, the ministry contracted with 73 specialized resources, with a capacity to serve 525 children.

Specialized Non-Residential Resources

These resources offer day programs and outreach services to children and their families where 24-hour care is not required. The services provided include assessment, counselling, family support, work-readiness preparation, work activity and life-skill programs. In 1986-87, 45 non-residential programs were funded.

Intensive Child Care Resources (ICCR)

For severely disturbed children in the province who are not able to benefit from any other services or resources provided through the Ministries of Attorney General, Social Services and Housing, Education and Health, an inter-ministry approach involving intensive services to stabilize the child can be arranged. The Ministry of Social Services and Housing participates in the co-ordination of inter-ministry case planning and, where it is necessary, provides the residential component of the service to the child.

During 1986-87, a total of \$55,729,610 was spent on child care resources. The increase in expenditures over the previous year was due to the development of more resources to serve children and teens with behavior problems. The contracted child care resource program can offer skilled child care to meet individual behavioral needs.

Table 23
Child Care Resources, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
1986-87	\$55,729,610
1985-86	54,167,008
1984-85	52,575,796
1983-84	49,724,126
1982-83	42,930,515

ADOPTION SERVICES

The ministry's adoption program operates under the statutory authority of the Adoption Act. Ministry staff are involved in different areas of adoptions, including ministry adoptions, non-ministry adoptions, international adoptions and post-adoption services.

In all adoptions, the objective is to provide permanent homes for children whose parents are unable to care for them. In ministry adoptions, ministry staff place children with families who have been approved for the placement of a child. These children have been voluntarily given up at birth for adoption placement, or have come into the permanent care of the Superintendent of Family and Child Service through the courts. A central registry of approved families is maintained in Victoria and children available for adoption are placed with selected applicants. Children are also featured in the ministry's bi-monthly Adoption Bulletin, and in a column in the Vancouver Sun entitled *Tuesday's Child*. These methods are effective in recruiting families for children where no approved families are available in the registry. In 1986-87, the ministry placed 183 healthy infants for adoption and 240 children with special needs, for a total of 423. There continues to be a need for families who can accept a child or children who are developmentally delayed, mentally handicapped, or are part of a sibling group of three or more.

Non-ministry adoptions are those in which the placement of a child is arranged privately, or with relatives. In 1986-87, 119 private adoptions were finalized. In all private adoptions, the court requires the superintendent to submit a report on the circumstances of the placement

and to make a recommendation regarding the granting of an adoption order. In adoptions by step-parents and relatives, the superintendent becomes involved only when requested by the court. Information for the superintendent's report is obtained through a post-placement inquiry conducted by ministry staff.

As the number of infants available for adoption continues to decline, more individuals become interested in adopting internationally. The ministry's role in international adoptions is to facilitate such placements with the assistance of the National Adoption Desk in Ottawa. Last year, there were 36 children from other countries adopted in British Columbia.

Post-adoption services are provided to adoptees and adopting parents after an adoption has been legalized. Ministry staff provide adoptees who wish to learn more about their background with non-identifying medical and background information upon request.

Although there are fewer infants available for adoption, the demand for children has not diminished. Currently, there are over 2,900 applications on file.

Table 24
Children Placed for Adoption by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Category</u>	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Children placed from:					
- within B.C.					
- in B.C.	381	342	388	417	479
- to other provinces	4	7	2	1	-
- to other countries	1	-	-	-	-
- other provinces into B.C.	2	1	2	5	9
- other countries into B.C.	<u>35</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>31</u>
TOTAL CHILDREN PLACED	423	407	428	456	519

Table 25

Number of Adoption Placements Made by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, by Type of Placement, 1982-83 to 1986-87

Type of Placement	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85	1983-84	1982-83
Hospital to Adoption Home	75	92	117	150	173
Foster Home to Adoption Home	239	190	243	248	280
Foster Home Changed to Adoption Home	73	68	68	58	66
International	<u>36</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL	423	407	428	456	519

Table 26

Number of Children Placed for Adoption, by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, by Category, 1982-83 to 1986-87

Category	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85	1983-84	1982-83
Healthy infants	183	116	147	192	242
Children with special needs	<u>240</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>281</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>277</u>
TOTAL	423	407	428	456	519

Table 27

Number of Children Placed for Adoption by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, by Age, 1982-83 to 1986-87

Age	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85	1983-84	1982-83
0 - 23 months	217	229	263	300	374
2 - 5 years	117	88	93	86	81
6 - 12 years	76	77	59	58	54
13 years and over	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>
TOTAL	423	407	428	456	519

Table 28

Adoption Reports Submitted to the Supreme Court, 1982-83 to 1986-87

Type	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85	1983-84	1982-83
Stepparent	3	3	6	6	14
Relative	2	3	2	1	8
Private	<u>119</u>	<u>119</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>87</u>
TOTAL	124	125	113	98	109

Table 29

Approved Adoption Homes, by Type of Child Requested, March 31, 1983 to 1987

Category	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983
Healthy infants	59	50	193	220	189
Healthy infants or children with special needs	308	259	199	191	334
Children with special needs	<u>85</u>	<u>242</u>	<u>314</u>	<u>320</u>	<u>201</u>
TOTAL	452	551	706	731	724

Table 30

Post-Adoption Services, by Applicant, 1983-84 to 1986-87

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>
Adoptee	550	552	462	331
Birth Parent	232	218	242	131
Adopting Parent	129	145	159	80
Professional	45	125	181	340
Others	<u>141</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>29</u>
TOTAL	1,097	1,105	1,083	911

INSPECTION AND STANDARDS UNIT

The Inspection and Standards Unit became a separate part of the Family and Children's Services Division in March of 1986. Under the direction of the Superintendent of Family and Child Service, its function is to monitor and report on standards of practice in child welfare services.

The Inspection and Standards Unit compiles standards of practice and rules of conduct for use in pro-active audits of selected cases. These standards are used in regular audits at the district office level and are carried out in conjunction with field staff. The audits enable the superintendent and field staff to assess how effectively the requirements of the Family and Child Service Act are being carried out, thus contributing to an improvement in the quality of administration.

The inspectors conduct case investigations on behalf of the superintendent and respond to allegations of poor staff practice or improper conduct. The scope of these investigations encompasses all of the services related to the Family and Children's Services Division.

During the 1986-87 fiscal year, the Inspection and Standards Unit completed pro-active audits in 20 district offices, and completed 71 reviews and inquiries on behalf of the superintendent.

SECTION V
REHABILITATION AND
SUPPORT SERVICES

REHABILITATION and SUPPORT SERVICES

INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMS
AND SERVICES

Rehabilitation and Support Services Division programs are provided under the authority of the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Act. The division's objective is to develop methods which will assist individuals or families to increase their potential and become as independent as possible.

Rehabilitation and Support Services programs include: adult rehabilitation through individual opportunity plans and employment initiatives; child day care; infant development; achievement centres for the handicapped; self-help skills; community projects funding; residential services for the mentally retarded, including community residential care and institutional care; and the senior citizen counsellors program, which is reported under Services to Seniors in Section VII of this report.

ADULT REHABILITATION

Adult Rehabilitation encourages income assistance clients to identify barriers keeping them from employment and to develop an individual opportunity plan which outlines steps they may take to remove those barriers. To help a recipient as much as possible, the Ministry of Social Services and Housing provides ongoing participatory programs to clients as part of their individual opportunity plan.

Individual Opportunity Plan Programs

The purpose of the Individual Opportunity Plan (IOP) is to help income assistance recipients identify employment barriers and to clearly

define attainable steps to overcome these barriers. The Ministry of Social Services and Housing provides ongoing programs for individual opportunity plan participants.

A total of 20,834 clients participated in individual opportunity plans in 1986-87.

The following is a more detailed explanation of the various IOP programs:

Educational, Vocational and Rehabilitative Services

The Educational, Vocational and Rehabilitative Services Program provides an opportunity for income assistance recipients to take part in educational, vocational or rehabilitative programs in preparation for employment. This program operates under the statutory authority of the GAIN Act (section 10) and GAIN Regulations (section 13).

In addition to basic income assistance, the ministry may provide payment for the cost of educational programs and allowances for extra expenses when financial assistance from other sources, such as student loans, federal programs and other provincial ministries, is unavailable.

A total of 15,644 clients received assistance with education and training in 1986-87. This includes income assistance clients who received direct assistance such as tuition, allowances from this ministry as well as those who were assisted by other sources while in receipt of GAIN. Expenditures by this ministry for direct assistance in 1986-87 were \$1,920,882.

Table 31
Client Participation* in Individual Opportunity Plans, 1986-87

Educational, Vocational and Rehabilitative Services	15,644
Job Action	3,311
Counselling	2,220
Incentives Allowance for Employment Programs	1,174
Employment Initiatives for the Handicapped	576
Work Activity Projects	116

* These figures differ from the total number of participants because clients may participate in more than one Individual Opportunity Plan Program.

Table 32
Educational, Vocational and Rehabilitative
Services, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,920,882 *
1985-86	2,949,286
1984-85	2,671,792
1983-84	2,671,240
1982-83	2,610,495

* Does not include Job Action Program expenditure of \$1,518,948. Job Action Program expenditures were included in this table in previous fiscal years.

Job Action

In support of the ministry's commitment to assist employable income assistance recipients to become employed, the Job Action Program was provided to job-ready clients who need to develop effective job search skills. Job Action operates under the statutory authority of the GAIN Act (section 10) and GAIN Regulations (section 16).

Participants in the Job Action Program learn to identify their marketable employment skills and to present themselves effectively in an interview. They also learn techniques for locating prospective employers and getting job interviews.

Depending on the instructional resources available in a community, the Job Action Program was provided as a contracted service through private contractors, nonprofit organizations, community colleges or was provided by ministry staff. The Job Action Program was available in all of the ministry's regions.

In 1986-87, the ministry contracted for 37 programs in addition to those operated by the ministry. It was estimated that 3,200 employable income assistance recipients would participate in the Job Action Program during this fiscal year. The actual number of participant was 3,311.

A comprehensive survey of Job Action Program participants was undertaken for the period July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985. This survey indicated that 42.5 per cent of participants found employment. Subsequent statistics have indicated that there has been an increase in the percentage of participants finding

employment. A recent review of statistics for 576 Job Action Program participants, representing approximately 23 per cent of the total number of participants April 1, 1986 to February 28, 1987, indicates that 49.6 per cent found employment; an increase of 7.1 per cent.

The 1986-87 Job Action Program budget was \$1,524,163. Although the number of participants exceeded the original target of 3,200 participants, the actual expenditure was slightly under budget at \$1,518,948.

Job Action participants receive an allowance of \$50 per week to a maximum of \$150 for expenses related to job search. The cost per recipient in the Job Action Program is approximately equivalent to the cost of one month of income assistance to a single person. Indications are that participants in the Job Action Program are finding employment in a much shorter time than employable clients not participating in the program and that cost savings exceeding the costs of participation are realized. To determine the level of savings a comparative evaluation will begin in 1987-88.

Table 33
Job Action, Expenditures, 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,518,948

Counselling

Counselling refers to employment-related counselling and is offered as a service rather than a program. Although all employable income assistance recipients receive job-related counselling, the number reported in Table 31 indicates counselling of an ongoing or repetitive nature.

Incentive Allowance for Employment Program

This program provides a monthly incentive allowance for eligible income assistance recipients who participate at least part-time in a volunteer work experience to help prepare them for entry into the work force. This program operates under the statutory authority of the GAIN Act (section 10) and GAIN Regulations (section 14).

Participants must be in receipt of income assistance and may be placed in nonprofit or private agencies, federal, provincial or municipal.

pal government offices, or private sector businesses.

In addition to income assistance, the ministry provides an allowance of \$50 for a single person and \$100 for a person with dependents to cover program-related expenses. Clients may participate in the program for up to one year.

A total of 1,174 clients participated in 1986-87. Expenditures for the program in 1986-87 were \$310,239.

Table 34
Incentive Allowance for Employment, Expenditures, 1983-84 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$310,239
1985-86	363,532
1984-85	358,728
1983-84	606,956

Employment Initiatives for the Handicapped

The objective of the Employment Initiatives for the Handicapped Program is to provide recipients of GAIN for Handicapped benefits with increased opportunity for employment or social contact. This program operates under the GAIN Act (section 2) and GAIN Regulations (section 15(1)).

The program is provided for clients who would benefit from social contact or clients who require work experience in the community to upgrade their work skills. Monthly allowances of up to \$50 for single participants or \$100 for participating couples may be provided to cover program-related expenses.

A total of 576 clients participated in the program in 1986-87. Expenditures for 1986-87 were \$189,358.

Table 35
Employment Initiatives for the Handicapped, Expenditures, 1984-85 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$189,358
1985-86	340,370
1984-85	243,108

Work Activity

Work Activity projects enhance opportunities to obtain employment for income assistance recipients who have special needs and who are not able to benefit from other available training programs. These projects operate under the GAIN Act (section 10) and GAIN Regulations (section 16(1)).

Work Activity projects combine life-skills training, educational upgrading, counselling and work experiences into intensive employment preparation programs.

A total of 116 clients participated in Work Activity projects in 1986-87. Expenditures in 1986-87 were \$652,615.

Table 36
Work Activity, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$652,615
1985-86	651,370
1984-85	637,121
1983-84	611,735
1982-83	1,004,295

Assistance to Employment

Under the GAIN Act (section 2) and GAIN Regulations (section 12), financial assistance for essential job-related expenses may be authorized to encourage income assistance recipients to explore employment opportunities. Funds may be provided for essential clothing and transportation or moving costs to a confirmed job when financial aid is not available from any other source.

Expenditures for 1986-87 were \$1,243,297.

Table 37
Assistance to Employment, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,243,297
1985-86	772,240
1984-85	561,520
1983-84	692,753
1982-83	538,050

Youth Incentive

The Youth Incentive Program provides young people aged 15 to 18 years, wards of the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, who lack self-confidence, motivation, or good work habits with an opportunity to enhance their employment-related skills and improve their self-concept. This program operates under the statutory authority of the GAIN Act (section 2).

Participants are provided with a monthly allowance of \$50 to cover program-related expenses for 25 hours of volunteer work. Placements may be made in nonprofit agencies and organizations or private sector businesses for up to six months.

Expenditures for Youth Incentive in 1986-87 were \$19,312.

Table 38
Youth Incentive Program, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$19,312
1985-86	43,449
1984-85	45,591
1983-84	43,699
1982-83	42,923

EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES PROJECTS

A central employment Initiatives Projects Unit, with designated staff in all regions, has been established to support the ministry's commitment to assist employable income assistance recipients in their transition to the labor force. The unit co-ordinates the ministry's activities in relation to both provincial and federal government employment and training programs. The ministry is a major participant in the provincial JobTrac initiative and the team co-ordinates the services available to income assistance recipients through this initiative. In general, the ministry acts as a referral agency for recipients to employment and training opportunities.

Activities within the project include provision of training and support to field staff and liaison with other provincial ministries, federal government agencies and the private sector. The interests of income assistance recipients

are represented and their needs defined for program developers. Key staff have been designated in each region to co-ordinate activities at the local level.

Specific program involvement in 1986-87 included FORSAR 1986-87 in which 1,789 income assistance recipients participated with an expenditure of \$12,950,000; JobTrac Employment Subsidy Program in which 1,292 clients participated with an expenditure of \$2,133,035; and Forests Wage Subsidy which assisted 46 clients with an expenditure of \$80,000. The ministry worked co-operatively with other ministries on these programs. In addition, the ministry assisted 4,500 income assistance recipients to participate in federal government employment and training programs including Job Development, Job Re-Entry, Job Entry and Innovations. The programs are administered through Employment and Immigration Canada and expenditures for this ministry's clients during 1986-87 were approximately \$15 million.

FORSAR

The Ministry of Social Services and Housing has participated in a number of employment projects geared to one of its major priorities: helping income assistance clients to get back into the labor force. FORSAR was one such program.

FORSAR provided income assistance recipients with work experience and training as they enhanced the forest resource base in the province. The Ministry of Forests and Lands hired income assistance clients to carry out forest improvement projects. They selected their crews from referrals made by local Ministry of Social Services and Housing offices. For a duration of up to six months of work and training, the crews were helped to develop the skills required for a variety of work opportunities.

In the 1986-87 fiscal year, the target was to place at least 1,090 longer term income assistance clients in silviculture projects. By the end of the fiscal year, 1,789 clients had been employed in the program. The goal was to provide solid work experience and skills training, thus enhancing the employability of the participants and increasing their chances of becoming independent of income assistance.

The effectiveness of the program was measured by a comparison of the rate at which program participants achieved independence from income assistance when compared to non-participants of similar age, sex, marital status, employment history and employability.

The immediate benefits of FORSAR were a \$4.4 million savings in income assistance payments plus the performance of work valued at \$9.7 million. This offsets the \$12.9 million cost of the program by more than \$1.1 million.

The success of the FORSAR Program is reflected in the acquired training and work experience which enabled participants to free themselves of dependence on income assistance. The work performed by program participants resulted in a significant enhancement of the province's resource base.

This program has been replaced by Forestry JobTrac for 1987-88. A more detailed evaluation of the impacts of Forestry JobTrac is currently underway.

JobTrac: Employment Subsidy Program

Formerly called the Ministry of Labour/Ministry of Human Resources Joint Training Assistance Program, the JobTrac Employment Subsidy Program provides an opportunity for income assistance recipients to develop skills through on-the-job training. This program operates under the statutory authority of the Apprenticeship Act.

Through this program, employers who provide on-the-job training opportunities for income assistance recipients may be eligible to receive a wage subsidy from the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training. Training placements are full-time from a minimum of two months to a maximum of one year.

A total of 1,292 clients participated in the JobTrac Employment Subsidy Program in 1986-87, compared to only 98 in the year previous. Expenditures were \$2,133,035, a more than three fold increase from the previous year when \$666,802 was spent on JobTrac.

By assisting clients to re-enter the workplace and thus reduce their dependence on income assistance, the ministry saved an

estimated \$2.2 million in income assistance payments during this fiscal year. Further savings resulting from 1986-87 program expenditures are anticipated in the 1987-88 fiscal year.

CHILD DAY CARE

The ministry participates in child day care through the parental subsidy program, day care support programs, day care grants and the special needs day care program. The statutory authority for this participation is the GAIN Act (sections 2, 5 and 22) and GAIN Regulations (sections 4(1), 28 and schedules D and E).

Day Care Subsidy Program

The objective of the Child Day Care Subsidy Program is to assist eligible families to meet day care costs for children up to and including age 12. The program is a support service to families, enabling parents to prepare for or maintain employment and financial independence. It also provides relief to families during prolonged illness or other family crisis. Eligibility for assistance with the cost of fees is based on the number of people in the family and total net income. The family must also meet social needs criteria as outlined in the GAIN Regulations and Canada Assistance Plan. The ministry can assist families with services such as licensed and unlicensed family day care, group day care, in-own-home day care, nursery school, out-of-school day care and special needs day care.

The 1986-87 expenditure on subsidies was \$21,772,586. An average of 3,082 half-time and 9,760 full-time subsidies were given each month.

Table 39
Child Day Care Subsidy, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$21,772,586
1985-86	19,598,295
1984-85	18,665,316
1983-84	19,287,794
1982-83	19,986,295

Table 40

Average Monthly Child Day Care Subsidy Expenditures, by Type of Care, 1986-87

<u>Type of Care</u>	<u>Average Monthly Cost per Child</u>	<u>Average Monthly Total Cost</u>
Family Day Care	\$146	\$ 625,845
Group Day Care	209	659,304
In-Own-Home Day Care	98	220,517
Out-of-School Day Care	88	161,781
Nursery School	43	44,982
Special Needs Day Care	435	101,953
TOTAL		\$1,814,382

Table 41

Average Monthly Number of Children Subsidized, by Type of Care, 1986-87

<u>Type of Care</u>	<u>Half-Time</u>	<u>Full-Time</u>
Family Day Care	315	3,984
Group Day Care	118	3,044
In-Own-Home Day Care	411	1,833
Out-of-School Day Care	1081	764
Nursery School	1,058	-
Special Needs Day Care	99	135
TOTAL	3,082	9,760

DAY CARE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

The ministry funded seven day care support programs during 1986-87. Four of these are family day care support programs and are located in Abbotsford, Mission, Kelowna and Nelson. Services include recruiting and training operators for family day care homes and monitoring their operation to enhance the quality and number of available homes. Two other programs assist in the co-ordination of day care services at the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University. The ministry also provides funding to a crisis nursery for native children in the Vancouver area. During 1986-87, ministry funding for these seven programs totalled \$209,564.

Special Needs Day Care

The objective of the Special Needs Day Care Program is to help children with special needs participate in day care programs by providing extra supports which address the specific needs of each child. These programs offer specialized care, activities and supervision designed to assist the children to attain maximum social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth.

In 1986-87, the ministry contracted with a number of nonprofit societies to provide 68 programs offering 1,024 specialized day care spaces in either specialized or integrated day care centres. Ministry expenditures on contracts totalled \$5,862,940. The ministry paid the full cost for children in these specialized resources. In addition, the ministry provided full or partial subsidies for an average of 234 special needs children in family day care homes, group day care centres or nursery schools each month.

Day Care Program Initiatives

During 1986-87, the ministry helped to preserve 1,246 day care spaces by providing emergency repair and relocation grants to nonprofit societies. These grants totalled \$144,040.

In May, 1986, the maximum subsidy rates payable for each type of day care were increased. In October, 1986, the net income exemption levels for the income test were raised.

In January, 1987, the ministry released two new publications to assist parents seeking suitable day care for their children. These were *A Parents Guide to Selecting and Monitoring Day Care Arrangements* and an accompanying *Checklist*.

A new model for delivery of special needs day care services began this year in Port Hardy. The ministry contracted with a society to provide an itinerant special needs worker to provide service for special needs children placed in family day care homes in the area. This type of service delivery is much more efficient in areas where families are relatively isolated because of the geography. The program provides service for up to 20 special needs children.

INFANT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Infant Development Program is funded under the statutory authority of the GAIN Act (section 2). This program's objective is to optimize the development of infants from newborn to three years of age who exhibit significant developmental delay as a result of mental or physical handicaps. The program helps parents to develop positive and realistic expectations of their child's abilities, and assists them to encourage and support the child's development.

Services provided by professionally trained infant development consultants through this

home-based program include supplying information and support to parents, designing individualized learning and activity programs for parents to implement, conducting specific development tests and lending relevant books, toys and other resource materials to parents. The ministry also appoints members to sit on the provincial steering committee which acts in an advisory capacity to the ministry and makes recommendations on program guidelines.

The ministry funded 30 infant development programs in 1986-87. Two new programs were started during this year, one in Golden and one in Vanderhoof. Approximately 2,200 infants received services during 1986-87. Expenditures were \$1,583,455. The total number of children served since the program was established 14 years ago is now 11,475.

Table 42
Infant Development, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,583,455
1985-86	1,492,667
1984-85	1,474,112
1983-84	1,466,717
1982-83	1,439,002

Table 43
Number of Children Served and the Number of Infant Development Workers, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Approximate Number of Children Served*</u>	<u>Number of Infant Development Consultant Positions**</u>
1986-87	2,200	44.50
1985-86	2,195	43.42
1984-85	2,600	44.25
1983-84	2,498	44.25
1982-83	1,650	44.00

- * These statistics reflect the approximate number of children visited during a given year. Caseloads fluctuate as children are admitted or discharged.
- ** Several of the program consultants participate in job-sharing. There are actually 56 infant development consultants working in the province.

ACHIEVEMENT CENTRES FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The Achievement Centres Program is provided by authority of the GAIN Act (section 2) and GAIN Regulations (section 18). The program provides financial assistance to nonprofit societies which operate day programs designed to improve the personal, social or work-related skills of handicapped persons. The ministry pays achievement centre operators a subsidy based on the number of approved participant hours of each centre. During 1985-87 the subsidy was \$1.32 per participant hour. An allowance is available to eligible handicapped individuals to assist with the transportation cost of attending achievement centres.

On May 1, 1986, the administrative responsibility and budgets for four centres serving primarily mentally ill clients was transferred to the Ministry of Health. By year-end, the ministry was subsidizing 61 centres serving approximately 2,675 clients. Capital grants were made to centres in Duncan, Victoria, Prince George and Langley.

Expenditures on achievement centres in 1986-87 were \$6,645,807.

Table 44

Achievement Centres, Expenditures (Subsidies, Travel, Capital Grants), 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$ 6,645,807 *
1985-86	6,618,414 **
1984-85	7,364,109
1983-84	7,315,864
1982-83	6,983,161

* Four achievement centres serving primarily mentally ill clients were transferred to the Ministry of Health on May 1, 1986.

** Fourteen achievement centres serving primarily mentally ill clients were transferred to the Ministry of Health on May 1, 1985.

SELF-HELP SKILLS PROGRAM

The Self-Help Skills Program for mentally retarded adults is provided by authority of the GAIN Act (section 2). The program trains and supports mentally retarded adults to enhance personal and social skills which increase functional competencies in everyday living.

Services are purchased by contract from nonprofit societies, private companies or individuals, and from community colleges. The services may be provided on a one-to-one basis or to a group, whichever is best suited to the needs of the handicapped individual. Expenditures in 1986-87 through the Self-Help Skills Program were \$5,020,522, an increase of more than 15 per cent over the previous year. This program provided training and support services to more than 1,500 clients during the year, including those persons placed in the community from Tranquille and Woodlands.

Table 45

Achievement Centres, Service, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Centres</u>	<u>Approx. Number of Clients Per Month</u>	<u>Subsidy Rate Per Hour</u>	<u>Approx. Hours of Client Services</u>
1986-87*	61	2,675	\$1.32	4,348,428
1985-86*	65	2,900	1.32	4,340,007
1984-85	78	5,000	1.26	5,109,635
1983-84	78	5,000	1.26	5,046,321
1982-83	78	5,000	1.26	4,959,041

* Eighteen achievement centres were transferred to the Ministry of Health during 1985-86 (14) and 1986-87 (4).

Table 46

Self-Help Skills Program Expenditures, Hours and Numbers Served.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Approx. Hours of Client Services</u>	<u>Approx. Number of Clients Served</u>
1986-87	\$5,020,522	661,000	1,500
1985-86	4,346,628	570,000	1,400
1984-85	3,673,609	305,471	1,100
1983-84	2,637,168	219,764	880
1982-83	2,284,196	203,764	800

COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUNDING

The Community Projects Funding Program purchases services in the community from non-profit societies. These services complement and support ministry statutory services. The Community Projects Funding Program operates under the GAIN Act (sections 2 and 5). Categories of projects which may be funded are family service projects, crisis centres, youth projects, services to the disabled, volunteer bureaus and counselling/ information services to low income groups.

Regional offices of the ministry are responsible for the initial screening of new applications as well as monitoring established projects. In 1986-87 five new projects were funded, five existing projects were transferred to other ministries or other program areas within this ministry, and three projects closed or did not reapply for funds. A total of 160 community projects were funded through the program in 1986-87 and expenditures were \$5,157,291.

The ministry continued to negotiate contracts for purchase of services from some societies which formerly received grants under the Community Projects Funding Program.

Table 47

Community Projects, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$5,175,291*
1985-86	5,161,998
1984-85	5,326,526
1983-84	6,004,385
1982-83	6,883,973

* Five projects were transferred to other ministries or other program areas within this ministry.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

The objective of the Residential Care Services Program is, wherever possible, to provide mentally handicapped adults with places to live in their own communities, thus enhancing their independence while meeting their specific needs.

Residential services for mentally handicapped individuals include a variety of facility types throughout the province. This enables mentally handicapped adults and their families to have some choice in the type of residence that best meets their needs.

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL CARE

Residential care services available to mentally handicapped adults living in the community range from full personal care in residence to counselling and support for independent living. The focus of each service is to assist the adult in achieving the greatest degree of independence possible.

This program operates under the statutory authority of the GAIN Act (section 2(1)(2)) and GAIN Regulations (sections 22, 24, 25 and schedule C). Standards of care are determined by the Community Care Facilities Licensing Act and Adult Care Regulations and the Hospital Act (section 6), which are administered by the Ministry of Health.

Expenditures for adult residential care in 1986-87 were \$39,502,631, including funding for intensive adult care resources and professional support team services, but excluding capital grants and start-up funds.

The emphasis has continued to be on the development of a range of living opportunities for mentally handicapped adults in the community. This has resulted in the design of many different program models to meet individual needs.

Table 48

Community Projects Funding for 1986-87

<u>Location and Agency</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Amount 1986-87</u>
ABBOTSFORD		
Matsqui-Abbotsford Community Services	Volunteer Services Family Service Project }	\$ 86,881
AGASSIZ		
Agassiz-Harrison Community Services Society	Volunteer Services	19,071
ARMSTRONG		
Armstrong-Spallumcheen Community Services Association	Volunteer Services Family Service Project	12,657 8,736
BURNABY		
Big Sisters of B.C. Lower Mainland	Youth Project	15,030
Burnaby Family Life Institute	Family Service Project	15,781
Canadian Society for Information Children	Family Service Project	12,827
Citizen's Development Fund: Stride Avenue Community Youth Worker Project Backdoor	Youth Project Youth Project	15,028 89,120
Life Line Society	Family Service Project	57,398
CAMPBELL RIVER		
Campbell River Counselling and Crisis Line Services Society	Family Service Project Crisis Centre }	26,562
CASTLEGAR		
Castlegar District Community Centre Service Society	Volunteer Services	15,626
CHILLIWACK		
Chilliwack Community Services	Volunteer Services Family Service Project Crisis Centre }	85,125
COQUITLAM		
Coquitlam SHARE Society	Crisis Centre Low Income Groups }	167,128

Greater Coquitlam Volunteer Bureau	Volunteer Services	16,459
COURTENAY		
Comox Valley Family Life Association	Youth Project	25,674
Crossroads Crises and Family Services Society	Crisis Centre Family Service Project }	24,815
CRESCENT BEACH		
Crescent Beach Community Services	Family Service Project	13,794
CRESTON		
Kootenay Society for the Handicapped	Services to the Handicapped	11,231
DAWSON CREEK		
Nawican Friendship Centre	Youth Project	29,319
DELTA		
Deltassist Society	Family Service Project Volunteer Services }	76,513
DUNCAN		
Cowichan Family Life Association	Family Service Project	23,379
Cowichan Lake District Community Activity Resource Centre	Youth Project	21,121
Cowichan Valley Volunteer Society	Volunteer Services	22,135
FALKLAND		
Falkland and District Community Association	Youth Project	16,750
FORT NELSON		
Fort Nelson-Liard Native Friendship Society	Youth Project	17,358
FORT ST. JOHN		
Fort St. John Counselling and Listening Centre Society	Family Service Project	5,100
Fort St. John Friendship Society	Youth Project	22,231
North Peace Community Resources Society	Volunteer Services	28,088

REHABILITATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

45

FRASER LAKE

Nechako Valley Community Services Society	Crisis Centre	25,232
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GOLDEN

Golden Community Resources Society	Volunteer Services	3,712
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The Golden Chapter of the Association for the Retarded Children of British Columbia	Services to the Handicapped	6,043
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HAZELTON

Gitksan-Wet'su Wet'en Education Society	Youth Project	19,230
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HOPE

Hope Chimo Community Services	Volunteer Services	13,604
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HOUSTON

Houston Health Care Services Society	Family Service Project	21,053
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KAMLOOPS

Boys and Girls Club of Kamloops	Youth Project	40,200
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Thompson Valley Crisis and Counselling Services Association	Family Service Project	81,351
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KELOWNA

Central Registry of Community Resources and Crisis Referral Society	Volunteer Services Crisis Centre	53,140
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KITIMAT

Kitimat Community Services Society	Volunteer Services	15,710
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LANGLEY

Langley Family Services Association	Family Service Project	37,823
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MACKENZIE

Mackenzie Community Rehabilitation Society	Crisis Centre	16,783
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MAPLE RIDGE

Maple Ridge Family Education Centre	Family Service Project	30,659
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Community Services Council	Family Service Project	54,040
	Volunteer Services	16,458
	Youth Project	17,050

MISSION

Mission Community Services Society	Family Service Project	} 48,998
	Volunteer Services	

NAKUSP

Nakusp District District Homemaker Services	Volunteer & Information Centre	10,728
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NANAIMO

Boys and Girls Club of Nanaimo	Youth Project	27,141
Nanaimo Association for Intervention Development	Crisis Centre	26,196
Nanaimo Citizen Advocacy Association	Services to the Handicapped	21,066
Nanaimo Family Life Association	Family Service Project	25,543
Nanaimo Volunteer Centre Society	Volunteer Services	22,376

NELSON

Nelson Community Services	Multi-Service Agency	91,796
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NEW WESTMINSTER

Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Family Service Project	11,808
	Youth Project	44,329
Lower Mainland Community Housing Registry Society	Low Income Groups	5,085
New Westminster Self-Aid Never Ends Society	Low Income Groups	39,474
Salvation Army	Low Income Groups	5,448

NORTH VANCOUVER

Capilano Community Services Society	Multi-Service Agency	9,850
North Shore Association for Physically Handicapped	Youth Project	17,000
North Shore Family Services Society	Family Service Project	28,125
North Shore Living and Learning Centre	Volunteer Services	17,459

North Shore Neighbourhood House	Family Service Project	25,615
North Shore Projects Society for the Low Income and Handicapped	Services to the Handicapped Low Income Groups }	17,155
Queen Mary Community School Assn. Outreach Youth Worker Program	Youth Project	6,492
PARKSVILLE		
District 69 Society of Organized Services	Family Service Project	14,094
PENTICTON		
Penticton and District Social Planning Society	Co-operative Community Services	27,080
Third Place Resource Centre	Low Income Groups Information & Referral Services Volunteer Services }	46,040
PORT ALBERNI		
Alberni Valley Citizen Advocacy Society	Services to the Handicapped	21,065
Port Alberni and Area Volunteer Society	Volunteer Services	22,867
Port Alberni Family Guidance Association	Youth Project	19,161
Port Alberni Family Life Association	Family Service Project	15,761
PORT COQUITLAM		
Port Coquitlam Area Women's Centre	Family Service Project	12,060
PRINCE GEORGE		
Prince George Crisis Intervention Society	Crisis Centre	57,892
PROVINCE WIDE		
B.C. Association of Volunteer Centres	Volunteer Services	2,825
B.C. Council for the Family	Family Service Project	122,367
B.C. Day Care Action Coalition	Family Service Project	1,000
B.C. Parents in Crisis Society	Family Service Project	90,884

Canadian Paraplegic Association	Services to the Handicapped	241,596
Canadian Wheelchair Sports Association B.C. Division	Services to the Handicapped	16,207
Catholic Community Services	Family Service Project	62,018
John Howard Society	Family Service Project	62,747
Pacific Association for Autistic Citizens	Services to the Handicapped	58,388
QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS Queen Charlotte Islands Health and Human Resources	Youth Project	15,784
QUESNEL Quesnel Contact Line and Centre	Crisis Centre	41,865
RICHMOND CHIMO Personal Distress Intervention Services in Richmond	Crisis Centre	61,556
Family Services of Greater Vancouver, Richmond Branch	Family Service Project	13,529
Richmond Volunteer Centre Society	Volunteer Services	3,109
Richmond Youth Services Agency	Youth Services	33,788
SALMON ARM Shuswap Youth Centre Association	Youth Project	18,624
SALTSPRING ISLAND Saltspring Island Community Society	Family Service Project	37,243
SECHELT Sunshine Coast Community Services Society	Volunteer Services	31,520
SMITHERS Smithers Community Services Association	Family Service Project Youth Project Volunteer Services	27,290 54,292 12,232

SURREY

Surrey Co-ordinating Centre:		
Crisis Intervention Program	Crisis Centre	29,954
Family Development Program	Family Service Project	39,692
Guildford Family Program	Family Service Project	32,458
Mayfair Family Program	Family Service Project	32,458
Professional Counselling Program	Family Service Project	21,773
Volunteer Program	Volunteer Services	20,402

TERRACE

Terrace and District Community Services Society	Family Service Project	28,007
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VANCOUVER

Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver	Youth Project	35,254
Big Sisters of B.C. Lower Mainland	Youth Project	24,558
Canadian Red Cross Society Child Abuse Prevention Program	Family Service Project	25,639
Credit Union Pacific (CUPAC) Services Society	Miscellaneous	48,000
Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention of Greater Vancouver	Crisis Centre	27,804
Douglas Park Community Centre Association	Services to the Handicapped	4,339
Downtown Eastside Economic Development Society	Low Income Group	8,372
Dunbar Community Association	Youth Project	8,591
Family Service of Greater Vancouver Granville Street Project	Youth Project	15,763
Franklin Community School Association	Youth Project	19,510
Greater Vancouver Information and Referral Service Society	Miscellaneous	34,834
Greater Vancouver Mental Health Services Society	Miscellaneous	12,000
Indian Homemakers Society	Family Service Project	15,985
Kiawassa Neighbourhood Services Association	Services to the Handicapped	30,069
Little Mountain Neighbourhood House Society	Family Service Project	7,592

Living is for Everyone Resource Centre Society	Family Service Project	6,583
Marpole/Oakridge Area Council Society	Family Service Project	19,781
Mount Pleasant Family Centre Society	Family Service Project	68,288
Multilingual Orientation Services Association	Miscellaneous	114,831
Native Women's Honor Society	Family Service Project	32,008
Neighbourhood Houses Association:		
Gordon House Davie St. Project	Youth Project	10,984
Gordon House People Place	Varied Services	27,865
Kitsilano Neighbourhood House	Family Service Project	4,675
Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House	Family Service Project	30,692
South Vancouver Neighbourhood House	Family Service Project	26,941
South Vancouver, Outreach Service for Native Indians	Youth Project	41,418
Ray-Cam Cooperative Association	Youth Project	19,645
Red Door Rental Aid Society	Low Income Group	49,434
Riley Park Community Association	Family Service Project	10,963
St. James Social Services Society	Multi-Service Agency	153,790
Salvation Army	Family Service Project	12,529
Skeena Terrace Tenants Association	Family Service Project	14,691
United Native Nations - Local 108	Streetworker Project	31,564
Vancouver Community Workshop Society	Low Income Group	27,804
Vancouver Life Skills Society	Family Service Project	26,917
Vancouver Resource Society for the Physically Disabled Handicapped Resource Centre	Services to the Handicapped	64,455
Vancouver Volunteer Society Voluntary Action Resource Centre	Volunteer Services	44,818
Volunteer Grandparents Society	Family Service Project	52,361
West Side Family Place Society	Family Service Project	17,481
Western Institute for the Deaf	Services to the Handicapped	28,088
YM-YWCA, Crabtree Corner	Family Service Project	25,000

VERNON

People in Need Crisis Intervention Society of Vernon and District	Crisis Centre	33,897
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VICTORIA

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Greater Victoria	Youth Project	9,094
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Counselling Service	Family Service Project	11,064
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Crisis Intervention and Public Information Society of Greater Victoria	Crisis Centre	48,621
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Esquimalt, Vic West, View Royal Community Association	Family Service Project	28,378
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Garth Homer Society for the Handicapped	Services to the Handicapped Volunteer Services	} 28,229
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Greater Victoria Citizen Advocacy Society	Services to the Handicapped	33,945
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Greater Victoria Citizens' Counselling	Family Service Project	28,126
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Greater Victoria Volunteer Society	Volunteer Services	30,257
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Kiwanis Club of Victoria	Youth Project	19,200
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Oak Bay Volunteer Services Society	Volunteer Services	22,550
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Peninsula Community Association	Volunteer Services	23,996
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Salvation Army	Family Service Project	14,767
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Victoria Child Sexual Abuse Society	Family Service Project	7,500
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Victoria Single Parent Resource Centre	Family Service Project	33,832
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YM-YWCA	Youth Project	93,725
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WHITE ROCK

White Rock Co-ordinating Centre Society	Volunteer Services	23,857
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TOTAL		\$5,157,291
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Table 49
Number of Community Residences for the
Mentally Handicapped and Persons Accommo-
dated, by Region, 1986-87

Region	Residences *	People **
1	6	13
2	6	16
3	59	315
4	19	152
5	18	73
6	43	219
7	21	55
8	55	222
9	51	184
10	48	143
11	—	—
12	37	146
13	40	112
14	17	96
15	-	-
16	9	23
18	43	136
19	36	90
TOTAL	508	1,995

* Residences include nonprofit group homes, licensed proprietary boarding homes, one- and two- bed unlicensed homes, training centres and semi-independent living homes.

** These are average figures due to changes in client placements during the year.

Group Homes

Group living for 3 to 12 adults is provided by nonprofit societies and private operators under contract with the ministry. Each program is uniquely designed to meet the particular needs of the residents.

Proprietary Boarding Residences

Privately-operated commercial residences are funded on the basis of established rates related to the assessed level of care required by each individual. Homes for three or more residents must be licensed under the Community Care Facility Act.

Respite Care

Respite care provides emergency or short-term respite periods of 1 to 30 days away from the adult's regular home environment.

Semi-Independent Living Programs

Semi-independent living programs provide realistic in-home support to enable individuals and small groups to live with relative independence in the community. The level of support provided varies according to individual need.

Training Centres

Three residential training centres operated by nonprofit societies provide life skills and vocational training for residents. These centres are Beaver Lodge in Oliver, Endicott Centre in Creston and Variety Farm in Ladner.

Table 50
Number of Residents in Proprietary Residential Care Facilities by
Level of Care, 1982-83 to 1986-87

Year	Residences*	MSSH Care Levels **				Special	Total****
		1	2	3	4	Rate**	
1986-87	352	141	307	274	220	111	1053
1985-86	312	167	302	240	172	98	979
1984-85	291	166	285	204	130	130	915
1983-84	283	158	277	186	111	134	866
1982-83	245	195	330	224	127	-	876

* Residences include all forms of proprietary residences, private hospitals, boarding homes, unlicensed family homes, long-term care facilities which provide care for some mentally handicapped persons and privately operated semi-independent living homes.

** The ministry's proprietary care levels correspond to the long-term care levels established by the Ministry of Health:

Ministry of Social Services and Housing

proprietary care

level 1

level 2

level 3

level 4

Ministry of Health

long term care

personal care

level I

level II

level III

The ministry's proprietary care level 1 is for people who are independently mobile, are functioning independently in most skill areas and require minimal, non-professional supervision. Level 2 is for people who are independently mobile, require moderate assistance with daily activities and minimal professional care and/or supervision. Level 3 has the same basic requirements but is for those who require more care and/or supervision. Level 4 recognizes the health care needs of an individual and is also designed for people who have severe behavior problems on a continuing basis and who require considerably more staff time than level 3.

*** Includes 11 residents in 4 privately operated semi-independent living homes.

**** These are average figures. Some residents came into the program during the year; others were reassessed to higher or lower levels of care part way through the year.

Table 51
Facilities for the Mentally Handicapped Operated by Nonprofit Societies,
1982-83 to 1986-87

Year	Number of	Total Number of
	Contracted	Mentally Handicapped
	<u>Facilities</u>	<u>Residents</u>
1986-87	156	942
1985-86	137	889
1984-85	88	675
1983-84	91	689
1982-83	78	616

Five community worker programs, which serve approximately 104 adults during any given month, are not included in these figures.

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Two provincial institutions and one 50-bed facility provide services to mentally handicapped individuals: Glendale Lodge in Victoria, Woodlands in New Westminster and Alder Lodge in Coquitlam.

The increased development of a network of community resources, which began in 1984-85 with the closure of the Tranquille institution, has continued as more residents of the remaining institutions move into the community.

Glendale

Glendale Lodge is a residential facility that provides training and assessment services to physically and mentally handicapped individuals from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Services provided at Glendale include long-term and short-term care, short-term training and comprehensive assessment services. Glendale also provides a day program for physically and mentally handicapped persons in

the Greater Victoria area. Together with the Ministry of Health and other professional groups interested in hearing programs, Glendale provides a screening assessment for persons with impaired hearing.

Glendale Lodge is operated by the Glendale Lodge Society, a nonprofit society registered under the British Columbia Societies Act. In addition to the lodge, the society operates 3 group homes in Victoria, accommodating 25 severely mentally handicapped residents. Expenditures for 1986-87 were \$13,862,748.

Table 52

Glendale, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$13,862,748
1985-86	13,662,748
1984-85	12,590,839
1983-84	12,992,920
1982-83	10,926,086

Table 53

Glendale, Resident Population, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Admissions</u>	<u>Discharges</u>	<u>Resident Population on March 31</u>
1986-87	327	325	335
1985-86	286	292	333
1984-85	294	251	341
1983-84	219	217	298
1982-83	279	282	297

Admissions: 312 * Short-term
15 Long-term

Discharges: 8 Community placements (regular)
313 Community placements after short-term admissions
4 Deaths

* Glendale provides on-going respite care for several children and adults each year.

Woodlands

Woodlands provides residential, assessment, planning, training and treatment services for mentally handicapped children and adults to the regions of the Lower Mainland and Northern Coast. Through outreach services, Woodlands also provides aid to mentally handicapped individuals living in the community.

While the resident population at Woodlands has been declining for the past two decades, the rate of reduction has been accelerated in the past year. This downsizing activity at Woodlands flows from a provincial cabinet decision made in 1981 to gradually replace the large institutions serving mentally handicapped persons with a network of community-based resources.

The resident population of Woodlands was 604 on March 31, 1987. Expenditures for 1986-87 totalled \$32,409,359.

Table 54
Woodlands, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$32,409,359
1985-86	33,616,087
1984-85	34,000,226
1983-84	32,656,605
1982-83	33,510,695

Table 55
Woodlands, Resident Population, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Admissions</u>	<u>Discharges</u>	<u>Resident Population at March 31</u>
1986-87	37	87	604
1985-86	42	63	654
1984-85	37	57	675
1983-84	42	58	695
1982-83	17	116	711

Admissions:	32	Short-term
	5	Long-term
Discharges:	44	Community placements (regular)
	39	Community placements after short-term admissions
	4	Deaths

Table 56
Woodlands, Resident Placements, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>To Family Home</u>	<u>To Independent Home</u>	<u>To Community Facility</u>	<u>Total Placements</u>
1986-87	5	-	82	87
1985-86	2	-	54	56
1984-85	4	-	44	48
1983-84	4	1	47	52
1982-83	4	-	96	100

Alder Lodge

Alder Lodge is a 50-bed facility providing residential, prevocational and outreach services for mentally handicapped individuals whose service needs cannot be met in their home communities. It is administered by Region 19 and serves the Lower Mainland regions of the Ministry of Social Services and Housing.

In addition to working with individuals and agencies to develop appropriate services for residents, Alder Lodge staff assist agencies to develop alternative community-based residential and support resources for mentally handicapped people in Region 19.

To help residents return to their home communities, Alder Lodge maintains close working relationships with a variety of community agencies and resources such as Douglas College, Second Step, Ridge Meadows Society, Simon Fraser Society and Woodlands.

SECTION VI
INCOME ASSISTANCE

INCOME ASSISTANCE

INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMS
AND SERVICES

The purpose of income assistance programs and services is to provide a basic income for British Columbians in need and to assist them to become independent and self-supporting. These services are delivered under the statutory authority of the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Act.

Income assistance programs and services are administered through the ministry's district offices. Eligibility for benefits is based on an objective measurement of an applicant's needs and financial circumstances.

To protect the rights of individuals applying for assistance, the ministry has established an appeal process. A ministry appeal kit is available to provide information to applicants when initiating an appeal. In the 1986-87 fiscal year 1,512 appeals were submitted. These consisted of 1,248 administrative reviews and 264 tribunals. Fifty-nine per cent of all appeals ruled in favor of the ministry and 41 per cent ruled in favor of the appellant.

Income assistance is provided through three types of GAIN programs: Basic Income Assistance, GAIN for Handicapped, and GAIN for Seniors Supplement (see Services to Seniors, Section VII). When assistance is provided to families where one or more members qualify for financial assistance from programs other than GAIN Income Assistance, the family case is reported under Supplementary GAIN.

In 1986-87, income assistance caseloads decreased four per cent from the 1985-86 levels. As of March 31, 1987, the total income assistance caseload (including the 60 to 64 age group and the CIHR cases) was 124,589 compared to 129,836 on March 31, 1986. The total annual expenditure for basic and supplementary income assistance was \$821,231,476.

Table 58
GAIN Income Assistance, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$821,231,476
1985-86	840,934,411
1984-85	815,379,309
1983-84	744,106,530
1982-83	609,223,335

Table 57
Appeals - April 1986 to March 1987

Total Number of Administrative Reviews	1,248
Total Number of Tribunals	<u>264</u>
Total Number of Appeals	1,512
Total Number of Administrative Reviews in Favor of Ministry	807
Total Number of Administrative Reviews in Favor of Appellant	441
Total Number of Tribunal Decisions in Favor of Ministry	89
Total Number of Tribunal Decisions in Favor of Appellant	175

BASIC INCOME ASSISTANCE

Basic income assistance provides financial assistance to eligible recipients to help meet fundamental living expenses. Basic income assistance consists of a monthly shelter allowance, determined by the family's actual shelter and utility costs, and a monthly support allowance. Benefit levels are based on family size. The income assistance program includes low income families in need of supplementary income as well as family situations where one or more recipients is aged 60 or over, and children living in the home of relatives (CIHR) who receive assistance on behalf of the child.

Income assistance is intended as temporary financial help in a time of need. Ministry policies encourage and assist employable clients to seek independence and self-sufficiency. Monthly benefits are available to eligible people aged 19 to 64 years, and to their dependents. In 1986-87, 61 per cent of the basic income assistance cases initiated required assistance for 4 months or less.

Table 59
Basic Income Assistance Rates,* March 1987

Family Size	Age	Employable			Unemployable		
		1st month	2-8 month	9 and more	1st month	2-8 month	9 and more
Single	25 or under	\$334	\$359	\$384	\$334	\$359	\$439
Single	26 or over	359	384	384	359	384	439
Couple	25 or under	586	611	636	586	611	691
Couple	26 or over	611	636	636	611	636	691
2 (parent/child)		656	656	656	656	656	691
3 people		789	789	789	789	789	824
4 people		891	891	891	891	891	926
5 people		988	988	988	988	988	1,023
6 people		1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,098
7 people		1,134	1,134	1,134	1,134	1,134	1,169
8, 9, or 10 people		add up to \$71 for each additional person					
11 or more		add up to \$70 for each additional person					

* The amount paid for shelter allowance depends upon the actual shelter costs paid by recipients. These rates reflect the maximum amount available to recipients in each category.

Table 60

GAIN Basic Income Assistance, Monthly Case Activity, 1986-87

<u>Month</u>	<u>Cases Closed*</u>	<u>Cases Opened*</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>
April 1986	11,213	9,943	- 1,270	122,092
May 1986	10,943	11,090	+147	121,769
June 1986	12,689	9,923	- 2,766	118,675
July 1986	12,286	11,421	-865	117,544
August 1986	12,130	10,155	- 1,975	115,186
September 1986	11,575	10,687	-888	113,874
October 1986	11,364	12,967	+ 1,603	114,945
November 1986	10,859	12,645	+ 1,786	116,311
December 1986	10,489	13,443	+ 2,954	118,960
January 1987	9,907	11,254	+ 1,347	120,126
February 1987	11,076	11,618	+542	120,522
March 1987	12,085	9,977	- 2,108	118,295

* Cases Closed: Estimates of those clients who did not receive income assistance in the current month but received income assistance in the previous month.

* Cases Opened: Estimates of those clients who received income assistance in the current month but did not receive income assistance in the previous month.

Table 61

Percentage of Case Turnover, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Turnover*</u>
1986-87	61.0
1985-86	59.0
1984-85	53.5
1983-84	59.4
1982-83	58.5

* Percentage of new income assistance cases closed after four months.

SUPPLEMENTARY GAIN

GAIN for Handicapped

GAIN for Handicapped benefits are provided to applicants between the ages of 18 and 64 years who have limited income and assets and who meet the medical and social definition of a "handicapped person" as defined by the GAIN Regulations. The individual must have a permanent medical condition that is so severe that financial independence via employment is precluded. Further, the individual must perma-

nently require either extensive assistance or supervision to manage daily living or face unusual ongoing extra costs arising from the condition.

In recognition of the added financial difficulties faced by the handicapped, GAIN for Handicapped benefits provide the recipient with a higher level of monthly income assistance (approximately 30.75 per cent higher than a basic income assistance recipient). In addition, medical, dental and pharmacy services are provided and a yearly bus pass can be purchased by the handicapped for a nominal fee (\$28.00 in 1987). An increased monthly earning exemption is available to a single handicapped recipient to encourage the individual to explore employment opportunities.

Once designated as a "handicapped person," an individual retains the status permanently. However, monthly benefits are suspended if the individual becomes financially independent. Ongoing medical benefits remain in effect when the individual becomes independent through employment. As of March 1987, there were 16,192 recipients receiving monthly benefits.

Table 62
Number of Persons in Receipt of GAIN for Handicapped for March 1983 to 1987

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Persons</u>
1987	16,192
1986	16,070
1985	16,281
1984	16,264
1983	15,823

GAIN for Seniors (Not Receiving Old Age Security)

A second supplementary GAIN plan, with 2,101 recipients, covers families where at least one recipient in a family is over 65 years of age and does not qualify for federal Old Age Security benefits.

Mixed Families with Old Age Security Component

The third plan, with 416 recipients, covers families where at least one member is over 65 years of age and qualifies for federal Old Age Security, and other family members qualify for benefits under other income assistance programs.

As of March 31, 1987, the ministry had 18,709 Supplementary GAIN recipients. Of these, 135 recipients and their dependents were involved in more than one plan.

Table 63
Number of Supplementary GAIN Recipients by Family Type, March 31, 1987

FAMILY TYPE

RECIPIENTS

	<u>GAIN For The Handicapped</u>	<u>Age 65+ (Not receiving OAS)</u>	<u>Families with an OAS Component</u>	<u>Total Number of:</u>	
				<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Cases</u>
Single Men	6,963	208	—	7,171	7,171
Single Women	5,959	726	—	6,685	6,685
Couples	1,812	1,099	314	3,225	2,333
Two-Parent	703	52	81	836	763
One-Parent	<u>755</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>792</u>
TOTAL	16,192	2,101	416	18,709	17,744

Table 66
Average Monthly Number of Recipients (Including Dependents), GAIN Total Income Assistance, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Recipients</u>
1986-87	224,515
1985-86	234,741
1984-85	232,220
1983-84	212,414
1982-83	177,560

Table 67
Average Number of Basic Income Assistance Cases and Recipients Per Month, by Category, 1986-87

<u>Category</u>		
Heads of Family	50,242	cases
Single Persons	67,951	cases

Total Caseload	118,193	
Dependants	98,508	

Average Monthly Total 216,701 recipients

Table 64
Total GAIN Caseload by Family Type and Dependent Children for March 1987

	Single Male	Single Female	Couples	Two-Parent	One-Parent	Total Cases	Total Dependent Children
<u>INCOME ASSISTANCE (IA)</u>							
Child with Relative	970	887	--	--	--	1,857	--
Age 60-64	1,550	1,735	862	178	112	4,437	426
Basic GAIN	<u>47,926</u>	<u>20,092</u>	<u>3,888</u>	<u>11,323</u>	<u>35,066</u>	<u>118,295</u>	<u>83,245</u>
Total IA	50,446	22,714	4,750	11,501	35,178	124,589	83,671
<u>SUPPLEMENTARY GAIN</u>							
GAIN For The Handicapped	6,963	5,959	1,372	643	755	15,692	2,141
Age 65+							
(Not Receiving OAS)	208	726	641	46	16	1,637	79
Families With an OAS							
Component	--	--	190	69	21	280	139
Mixed Plans*	--	--	130	5	--	135	5
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Supplementary	7,171	6,685	2,333	763	792	17,744	2,364
<u>TOTAL GAIN CASES</u>	<u>57,617</u>	<u>29,399</u>	<u>7,083</u>	<u>12,264</u>	<u>35,970</u>	<u>142,333</u>	<u>86,035</u>

* Mixed Plans - Families containing TWO Different Plans:
 GAIN For The Handicapped and Age 65+ (Not Receiving OAS) - 6 Cases
 GAIN For The Handicapped and Families With an OAS Component - 92 Cases
 Age 65+ (Not Receiving OAS) and Families With an OAS Component - 37 Cases
 TOTAL - 135

Table 65

Number of Cases of GAIN Income Assistance, by Category and Region for March 1987

	Region 1 (Vancouver East)	Region 2 (Vancouver Burrard)	Region 3 (Okanagan)	Region 4 (Kootenays)	Region 5 (Pr. George Cariboo)	Region 6 (Fraser Valley)	Region 7 (North Coast Peace River)	Region 8 (Victoria West)	Region 9 (Kamloops Mainline)	Region 10 (Vancouver Island North of Malahat)
CATEGORY										
Single Men	2,368	5,572	2,214	1,276	2,290	2,555	2,046	1,546	2,293	3,484
Single Women	1,224	2,272	1,219	584	1,038	1,346	823	831	1,123	1,706
One Parent Family	1,134	1,142	2,784	1,379	2,533	3,089	1,800	1,904	2,344	3,389
Two Parent Family	351	342	979	479	776	1,185	590	663	896	1,225
Couples	179	270	406	192	289	412	215	235	371	462
Child With Relatives	62	66	123	65	97	159	180	107	143	202
TOTAL CASES	5,318	9,664	7,725	3,975	7,023	8,746	5,654	5,291	7,170	10,468
Dependents: Children	2,546	2,265	6,866	3,396	6,182	8,016	4,615	4,643	5,932	8,449
Spouses	530	612	1,385	671	1,065	1,597	805	903	1,267	1,687
TOTAL RECIPIENTS	8,394	12,561	15,976	8,042	14,270	18,359	11,074	10,837	14,369	20,604

	Region 11 (Victoria East)	Region 12 (Fraser South)	Region 13 (Fraser North)	Region 14 (Northshore Sunshine Coast)	Region 15 (Vancouver Downtown Strathcona)	Region 16 (Vancouver South)	Region 18 (Surrey)	Region 19 (Coquitlam Maple Ridge)	PROVINCIAL TOTAL
CATEGORY									
Single Men	2,739	2,354	3,842	2,194	4,669	2,837	3,138	2,059	49,476
Single Women	1,312	1,178	1,747	1,079	751	1,260	1,436	898	21,827
One Parent Family	1,807	1,576	2,008	1,483	1,665	1,669	3,063	1,909	35,178
Two Parent Family	446	398	489	481	121	652	878	545	11,501
Couples	204	156	293	218	128	211	313	196	4,750
Child With Relatives	120	75	85	58	20	94	114	87	1,857
TOTAL CASES	6,628	5,737	8,464	5,513	5,854	6,723	8,942	5,694	124,589
Dependents: Children	3,760	3,352	4,097	3,376	613	4,167	7,085	4,291	83,671
Spouses	650	554	782	699	249	863	1,191	741	16,251
TOTAL RECIPIENTS	11,038	9,643	13,343	9,588	6,716	11,753	17,218	10,726	224,511

Table 68

Total GAIN Caseload and Number of Recipients by Region for March 1987

Region	<u>Income Assistance</u>		<u>Supplementary</u>		<u>Total GAIN</u>	
	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Recipients</u>
1	5,318	8,394	813	1,027	6,131	9,421
2	9,664	12,561	1,396	1,667	11,060	14,228
3	7,725	15,976	1,426	1,935	9,151	17,911
4	3,975	8,042	653	865	4,628	8,907
5	7,023	14,270	609	925	7,632	15,195
6	8,746	18,359	1,231	1,712	9,977	20,071
7	5,654	11,074	463	677	6,117	11,751
8	5,291	10,837	650	942	5,941	11,779
9	7,170	14,369	948	1,341	8,118	15,710
10	10,468	20,604	1,052	1,465	11,520	22,069
11	6,628	11,038	1,133	1,359	7,761	12,397
12	5,737	9,643	1,121	1,411	6,858	11,054
13	8,464	13,343	1,366	1,700	9,830	15,043
14	5,513	9,588	729	923	6,242	10,511
15	5,854	6,716	1,127	1,263	6,981	7,979
16	6,723	11,753	1,332	1,730	8,055	13,483
18	8,942	17,218	1,040	1,374	9,982	18,592
19	<u>5,694</u>	<u>10,726</u>	<u>655</u>	<u>888</u>	<u>6,349</u>	<u>11,614</u>
TOTAL	124,589	224,511	17,744	23,204	142,333	247,715

Table 69

Employability Status of GAIN Income Assistance Cases, by Region, for March 1987

Region	<u>Employable</u>	<u>Unemployable</u>
1	3,220	2,098
2	6,230	3,434
3	4,836	2,889
4	2,607	1,368
5	4,508	2,515
6	5,363	3,383
7	3,717	1,937
8	2,943	2,348
9	4,643	2,527
10	6,615	3,853
11	3,615	3,013
12	3,712	2,025
13	5,360	3,104
14	3,787	1,726
15	2,772	3,082
16	4,244	2,479
18	5,835	3,107
19	<u>3,664</u>	<u>2,030</u>
TOTAL	77,671	46,918

OTHER SERVICES AND BENEFITS

Under the provisions of GAIN legislation, income assistance recipients may qualify for various additional allowances.

When a recipient is without assets, income or other resources to meet an emergency, the ministry may provide additional assistance in the form of a Crisis Grant. Expenditures for 1986-87 Crisis Grants were \$3,530,465.

Table 70

Crisis Grants, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$3,530,465
1985-86	3,368,018
1984-85	2,774,305
1983-84	2,621,628
1982-83	2,782,027

A School Start-Up Allowance is provided to families with dependent children to help meet extra costs at the start of the school year. In 1986-87, this allowance was \$31 for children age 6 to 11 inclusive, and \$47 for children age 12 and older. The cost of this benefit was \$1,726,108.

Table 71

School Start-Up Allowance, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,726,108
1985-86	1,630,895
1984-85	1,595,783
1983-84	1,408,752
1982-83	1,330,994

The ministry continued to make funds available to enable handicapped adults and children of income assistance recipients to attend recognized summer camp programs. Expenditures for camp fees were \$364,857 in 1986-87.

Table 72

Camp Fees, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$364,857
1985-86	350,304
1984-85	303,078
1983-84	274,750
1982-83	269,327

An extra Christmas Allowance of \$28 for a single person and \$70 for a family was available in the month of December. This allowance totalled \$5,989,020 in 1986-87.

Table 73

Christmas Supplementary Allowance, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87*	\$5,989,020
1985-86	4,506,261
1984-85	4,121,296
1983-84	3,745,814
1982-83	3,231,741

*Includes an increase in the Christmas Allowance.

A maximum allowance of up to \$20 per month may be provided to a recipient to meet extraordinary dietary requirements. In 1986-87, \$1,635,810 were expended to help meet these requirements.

Table 74

Diet Allowance, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,635,810
1985-86	1,490,704
1984-85	1,270,742
1983-84	1,145,342
1982-83	1,048,655

A Natal Allowance of up to \$25 per month may be granted to a recipient who is pregnant. In the case of a multiple pregnancy or birth, the allowance may be increased to up to \$40 per month. In 1986-87, \$1,205,655 were expended in Natal Allowances.

Table 75

Natal Allowance, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,205,655
1985-86	1,275,385
1984-85	1,236,513
1983-84	1,097,096
1982-83	835,648

A Comforts Allowance of up to \$55 per month may be provided to recipients in special care facilities to meet personal needs. A monthly average of 3,671 people received this allowance through the GAIN payment system; this figure does not include those paid a comforts allowance through institutional budgets, such as Woodlands, Glendale, or Riverview. The total expenditure for 1986-87 was \$2,832,167.

Table 76

Comforts Allowance, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Recipients*</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	3,671	\$2,832,167
1985-86	3,564	2,564,075
1984-85	3,344	2,423,093
1983-84	3,211	2,389,927
1982-83	3,200	2,290,299

* These figures do not include recipients paid through an institutional budget.

A handicapped recipient who requires the assistance of a registered guide dog is entitled to receive an additional allowance of up to \$35 per month.

Where a deceased person has no estate, relatives or other persons able to assume responsibility, the ministry will provide payment of burial or cremation costs. In 1986-87, the cost of 568 funerals amounted to \$720,187.

Table 77
Burial of Indigents, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	568	\$720,187
1985-86	600	729,900
1984-85	598	712,493
1983-84	523	645,995
1982-83	525	553,577

Eligible recipients who have received income assistance for eight consecutive months may retain a portion of their job earnings to assist with work-related expenses. Policy allows for an earnings exemption for up to \$50 per month for a single person and up to \$100 per month for a single handicapped person or a person with dependants. In 1986-87, the Enhanced Earnings Exemption Program was introduced. Now, in the fourth month on assistance, employable recipients qualify for the standard earnings exemption as well as an additional exemption of 25 per cent of their monthly earnings of amounts above the standard exemption until they are no longer eligible for benefits. Where it would be to the advantage of unemployable or handicapped recipients, they may choose to opt into the Enhanced Earnings Exemption Program.

In special circumstances, where such a move would improve employment opportunities, recipients may receive financial assistance to return to their home province or country of origin. In 1986-87, this assistance totalled \$88,433.

Table 78
Repatriation, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$88,433
1985-86	153,242
1984-85	99,112
1983-84	105,567
1982-83	118,777

ADULT RESIDENTIAL RESOURCES

The ministry provides funds to registered nonprofit societies for the development and operation of emergency shelters (transition houses) and single persons' hostels.

Emergency shelters provide temporary room and board for women and children in a period of personal crisis who may require immediate financial assistance. In 1986-87, the ministry provided funding for 39 emergency shelter facilities and 8 safe homes. Expenditures in 1986-87 were \$3,584,022.

The increase in the number of emergency shelters in the past year is the result of the opening of new facilities; upgrading from safe home to emergency shelter; and transfers from the Single Persons Hostel Program to the Emergency Shelter Program.

Single persons hostels provide short-term accommodation to singles and childless couples who are travelling through an area and have no intention of establishing residency in the community, and to those who wish to settle in the community for reasons of age, health or to seek employment. In 1986-87, the ministry provided funding for 23 hostels at a cost of \$2,518,466.

Table 79
Emergency Shelter Program (Transition House Facilities) Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$3,584,022
1985-86	2,986,551
1984-85	3,114,852
1983-84	2,514,830
1982-83	2,458,910

Table 80
Emergency Shelters (Including Transition Houses) 1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Number of Facilities	39	31	30	29	24
Safe Homes	8	8	10	5	5
Total Capacity*	366	278	254	234	187
Average Capacity Per Shelter*	9.9	9	8.7	8	8
Average Per Diem Rate*	\$30.93	\$31.09	\$27.39	\$24.95	\$24.95

* Figures refer to adult capacity and per diem rates only. Safe homes are not included in these figures.

Table 81
Single Persons' Hostels, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$2,518,466
1985-86	2,466,576
1984-85	2,314,070
1983-84	2,616,480
1982-83	3,296,069

Table 82
Single Persons' Hostels, Service, 1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Number of Facilities	23	24	24	27	28
Total Capacity*	592	621	564	702	633
Average Capacity Per Shelter*	26	26	24	26	23
Average Per Diem Rate*	\$18.29	\$18.03	\$18.56	\$18.20	\$18.03

* Figures refer to adult capacity and per diem rates only.

Some facilities offering treatment for people with alcohol- and drug-related problems were jointly funded with the provincial Alcohol and Drug Commission of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Services and Housing contributions were \$1,269,208 in 1986-87.

Table 83
Shared Alcohol and Drug Facilities, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$1,269,208
1985-86	1,208,093
1984-85	1,052,166
1983-84	931,231
1982-83	1,117,136

MINISTRY INSPECTORS

The objective of the Ministry Inspectors Program is to prevent fraud and abuse of income assistance benefits. The ministry has a staff of 29 regional directors and 1 Pharmacare inspector.

Ministry inspectors investigate cases of alleged fraud and recommend procedures for its detection and prevention. In most serious cases, court action is undertaken. Where possible, overpayments fraudulently obtained are recovered through out-of-court settlements.

In 1986-87, 9,288 allegations were investigated. There were 195 charges laid involving 558 individual counts. Additionally, 2,054 settlements were negotiated without court action, totalling \$2,607,432.

The total savings achieved by the ministry's inspectors cannot be estimated, because fraudulent claims and overpayments would have continued for an undetermined period of time if not detected.

Table 84
Ministry Inspectors Program, Statistical Data Covering All Regions,
1982-83 to 1986-87

	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Total Cases Reported for Investigation	9,288	8,955	9,547	8,517	6,327
Charges Laid	195	164	246	205	193
Cases Still Before Court as of March 31, 1987	138	119	144	139	158
Investigations Completed	9,215	8,707	8,589	8,246	5,598
Settlements Negotiated					
Out of Court	\$2,607,431.54 (2,054 cases)	\$2,156,049 (2,022 cases)	\$1,678,957 (1,786 cases)	\$1,495,539 (1,763 cases)	\$1,097,117 (1,159 cases)
Total Monthly Assistance Terminated Due to Inspectors' Involvement	\$488,219.10 (1,317 cases)	\$ 512,291 (1,357 cases)	\$ 553,415 (1,179 cases)	\$ 578,321 (1,055 cases)	\$ 404,296 (1,552 cases)

Note: The above represents only the amount of monthly assistance being granted at the time of termination. No attempt has been made to estimate the amount which may have been wrongfully received had assistance not been terminated. It is also impossible to estimate the amount of savings attributable to the preventive value of the program.

Table 85
Monthly Report of Cases Referred to Inspectors for Investigation,
1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Month</u>	<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1984-85</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
April	825	921	812	579	410
May	849	691	869	815	401
June	642	808	880	762	444
July	853	785	595	755	548
August	687	720	820	746	367
September	817	662	678	732	476
October	762	822	741	639	565
November	711	643	670	620	570
December	545	607	640	548	470
January	908	749	942	792	614
February	871	779	1,031	749	651
March	<u>812</u>	<u>768</u>	<u>869</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>495</u>
TOTAL	9,288	8,955	9,547	8,517	6,011

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Family Support Program operated as a joint pilot project of the Ministries of Social Services and Housing and Attorney General from December, 1984 to January, 1987. The project was designed to assist separated or divorced income assistance clients to obtain reasonable and promptly-paid spousal and child support payments from their former spouses. In January, 1987, the responsibility for project services was transferred to the Ministry of Attorney General to facilitate planning for an expansion of maintenance services in British Columbia. The Ministry of Social Services and Housing remains committed to the enhancement of provincial maintenance services, and is continuing its efforts to ensure that income assistance clients receive the benefit of spousal and child support.

EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES

Emergency Social Services entails the provision of reception centres, housing, feeding, registration and inquiry, financial and personal services to evacuees, victims, and workers in a civil emergency. Under the Provincial Emergency Act, each municipality is responsible for developing an emergency social services plan as a part of its overall municipal emergency response plan.

The ministry is responsible for assisting municipalities to develop an individual Emergency Social Services plan; for providing direct emergency financial and personal services as part of the municipal plan; and for financial payment for food, lodging, and clothing provided during an emergency.

In 1986-87, Emergency Social Services (ESS) planning was accelerated by use of a federal Joint Emergency Planning Program (JEPP) grant which enabled the ministry to assign contracted ESS consultants in the different regions of the province to provide training and planning assistance. A 3-day municipal ESS directors' training workshop was developed with its first session held in January for 24 directors. In addition, training or planning assistance was provided in 86 different municipalities, training materials were developed for emergency communications and reception

centre management, and 20 half-day ESS workshops were conducted for ministry staff.

At the end of the fiscal year, out of 144 incorporated municipalities in British Columbia, 80 had designated ESS directors and were involved in developing municipal plans.

HEALTH CARE AND DENTAL SERVICES

Provided under the statutory authority of GAIN Regulations (section 29), ministry health services include purchase of medical insurance, purchase of dental and optical services, payment for medical transportation and accommodation, purchase of medical supplies and equipment and purchase of services for certain designated therapies on behalf of eligible GAIN recipients.

Levels of assistance vary depending on the financial circumstances of the individual.

The Health Services Section is responsible for monitoring policy application and budgets. It serves in a consultative capacity to provide field offices with information pertaining to policy interpretation, available health care services and community resources. The section also arranges purchase of major medical equipment and maintains inventory records of purchases. A limited supply of equipment owned by the ministry is provided on a short or long term basis to eligible income assistance recipients when needed.

Health Service program budgets are allocated to each region of the ministry. Field offices are responsible for determining eligibility and most expenditures are authorized at the local level. Ministry expenditures for Health Care and Dental Services in 1986-87 were \$39,061,899.

Table 86

Health Care Services, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$39,061,899
1985-86	36,014,815
1984-85	33,523,366 *
1983-84	33,398,164 **
1982-83	9,004,160 ***

* Effective July 1, 1984, responsibility for delivery of health services was decentralized. Health Service program budgets were allocated to each region of the ministry.

** On April 1, 1983, the ministry assumed responsibility for meeting co-insurance charges for income assistance clients requiring hospitalization. At the same time, the ministry re-assumed responsibility for providing dental services required by eligible clients.

*** Between January 1, 1981, and March 31, 1983, costs pertaining to basic dental care for clients were covered by the Dental Care Plan of B.C. administered by the Ministry of Health.

Table 87

Gross Costs of Health Care Services, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Medical*</u>	<u>Drugs**</u>	<u>Dental</u>	<u>Optical</u>	<u>Transport</u>	<u>Other***</u>	<u>Total</u>
1986-87	\$9,060,880	\$163,570,064	\$20,486,958	\$2,494,492	\$3,908,339	\$3,111,229	\$202,631,962
1985-86	8,235,595	136,499,740	19,395,146	2,469,225	3,432,718	2,482,131	172,514,555
1984-85	8,254,084	118,826,376	18,330,957	2,318,547	2,733,466	1,886,312	152,349,742
1983-84	7,406,650	106,573,295	20,148,679	2,195,967	2,316,167	1,330,701	139,971,459
1982-83	2,714,525	90,807,952	1,156,427	2,000,858	1,967,148	1,165,202	99,812,112

* Medical costs include payment for Medical Services Plan premiums, hospital co-insurance charges and physicians' fees for non-insured services.

** Drug costs reported are those incurred under the Pharmacare Program.

*** These costs include purchase of medical equipment, physiotherapy services, psychology services, speech and occupational therapy and miscellaneous minor services. Responsibility for approval of all such services was delegated to SS&H field offices effective July 1, 1984 in keeping with a decentralized approach to health service program delivery.

SECTION VII
SERVICES TO SENIORS

SERVICES TO SENIORS

INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMS
AND SERVICES

The Ministry of Social Services & Housing delivers a variety of programs to support and enhance the independence, well-being and health of senior citizens. Ministry services recognize the special needs of seniors and assist them to meet as many of their own needs as possible, while promoting greater use of community resources.

GAIN FOR SENIORS SUPPLEMENT

This program provides a guaranteed minimum income to those seniors in receipt of the federal government's Guaranteed Income Supplement and Spouses' Allowance. The program operates under the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Act (section 2).

Persons eligible for the GAIN for Seniors benefit are paid automatically, based on federal pension information supplied by the Old Age Security Division of Health and Welfare Canada. With increasing pension income, the number eligible for GAIN for Seniors Supplement has been decreasing over several years.

The number of GAIN for Seniors recipients as of March 1987 totalled 42,796. Expenditures for this program in 1986-87 were \$16,044,659.

Table 88
GAIN for Seniors Supplement, Expenditures,
1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$16,044,659
1985-86	16,744,294
1984-85	17,682,686
1983-84	18,205,417
1982-83	19,780,363

Table 89

Number of Persons in Receipt of GAIN for Seniors Supplement, as of March 31

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Persons</u>
1987	42,796
1986	44,547
1985	46,967
1984	47,922
1983	51,909

SHELTER AID FOR ELDERLY
RENTERS (SAFER)

The SAFER program provides direct cash assistance for a portion of rental costs to Old Age Security (OAS) recipients living in rental accommodation. The program operates under the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER) Act.

SAFER benefits equal 75 per cent of the amount by which rent exceeds 30 per cent of the applicant's total income. The maximum monthly rent that could be claimed for SAFER benefits was \$330 for a single person and \$365 for a couple in 1986.

To be eligible for SAFER, applicants must be 65 years of age or older, and a recipient of OAS renting a principal residence in British Columbia and paying more than 30 per cent of their income toward rent. In addition, applicants (or their spouses) must have resided in British Columbia for two years immediately prior to application or for five continuous years at any time in the past.

Total SAFER cases on March 31, 1987 were 8,997 and total program expenditures for 1986-87 were \$7,140,658. As a result of increases in the various pension benefits, fewer people received SAFER benefits in 1986-87.

Table 90
SAFER, Expenditures, 1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$7,140,658
1985-86	8,003,816
1984-85	9,129,701
1983-84	8,881,566
1982-83	8,540,798

Table 91

Average Monthly SAFER Benefits, 1983 to 1987, as of March 31

<u>Year</u>	<u>Singles</u>	<u>Couples</u>	<u>Sharers</u>
1987	\$66.89	\$20.84	—*
1986	70.09	26.02	—*
1985	80.28	31.35	\$ 5.00
1984	78.15	34.12	11.91
1983	75.11	40.99	18.07

* Sharers who share rent equally are no longer eligible under the SAFER formula because their combined income exceeds entitlement.

Table 92

Total SAFER Cases, 1983 to 1987, as of March 31

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Persons</u>
1987	8,997
1986	9,384
1985	9,962
1984	10,020
1983	10,640

Table 93

SAFER Cases, by Regions,* 1983 to 1987, as of March 31

<u>Region</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1983</u>
Outer Coast	450	463	492	470	462
Capital Regional District	1,576	1,716	1,882	1,945	2,130
Fraser Valley	674	639	679	638	684
Greater Vancouver Regional District	4,794	5,057	5,342	5,404	5,670
Central Interior	809	830	850	825	898
South-Eastern Interior	93	92	106	106	119
Northern Interior	134	128	144	152	149
<u>Other</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>459</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>528</u>
TOTAL	8,997	9,384	9,962	10,020	10,640

* British Columbia Housing Management Commission (BCHMC) regions

BUS PASSES

This program provides subsidized bus passes to aid and encourage the mobility of eligible low income senior citizens and recipients of GAIN for Handicapped benefits. The program operates under the GAIN Act and Regulations (schedule A, 3(b)iii). Ministry bus passes enable the holder to travel without payment of fares on local transit systems.

Bus pass applicants must be residents of British Columbia, 65 years or older, who are in receipt of either the Federal Guaranteed Income Supplement or GAIN for Seniors Supplement or both; or 60 years or older, who are in receipt of GAIN benefits; or under 65 years of age and in receipt of GAIN for Handicapped benefits.

As of January 1, 1987, a bus pass cost each applicant \$28 per year. As of March, 1987, there were 32,237 pass holders. The ministry paid \$6,687,494 to BC Transit during the fiscal year for bus passes.

Table 94
Gross Payments to BC Transit for Bus Passes,
fiscal year ending March 31, 1987

<u>District</u>	<u>Gross Payments for 1986-87</u>
Greater Vancouver	\$5,468,886
Greater Victoria	877,765
Other Communities	<u>340,843</u>
TOTAL	\$6,687,494

Table 95
Number of Bus Passes, by District, on December 31, 1986

<u>District</u>	<u>Number of Passes</u>
Greater Vancouver	25,286
Greater Victoria	4,460
Other Communities	<u>3,133</u>
TOTAL	32,879

Table 96
Number of Bus Passes on December 31, 1982
to 1986

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Passes</u>
1986	32,879
1985	30,479
1984	30,766
1983	33,623
1982	34,713

SENIOR CITIZEN COUNSELLORS

The Senior Citizen Counsellors Program helps inform senior citizens in British Columbia of all services and programs available to them and provides informal counselling and support. The program is provided under the statutory authority of the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Act (section 2).

Senior citizen counsellors are seniors who work as volunteers in co-operation with the Ministry of Social Services and Housing to provide information on seniors programs and services, help in completing pension forms, help with essential transportation, emotional support in times of crisis, friendly visiting, and assistance in the development of community services for seniors.

Counsellors are appointed because of their abilities as well as their interest in and involvement with seniors. They submit monthly statistical reports and expense claims and are reimbursed for expenses up to \$100 per month.

On March 31, 1987 there were 162 senior citizen counsellors throughout British Columbia. Program expenditures for the 1986-87 year totalled \$196,100.

Table 97
Senior Citizen Counsellors, Expenditures,
1982-83 to 1986-87

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1986-87	\$196,100 *
1985-86	185,557
1984-85	227,251 *
1983-84	196,350
1982-83	213,399

* These figures include expenditures for provincial workshops.

SECTION VIII
PHARMACARE

PHARMACARE

The Pharmacare Program operates under the authority of the Guaranteed Available Income for Need (GAIN) Regulations (section 30) and removes the major expense for prescribed benefits from individuals or families in British Columbia. This objective is accomplished through full or partial payment of costs incurred for prescription drugs and other designated benefits.

Pharmacare administers four plans, each benefiting a different group of people. While benefit items are identical within the plans, eligibility and degree of assistance vary.

GROUP 1 Full payment is made by Pharmacare direct to the supplier on behalf of:

Individuals holding a valid Pharmacare card issued on the basis of age (65 years of age or older) and residency (Plan A);

Individuals resident in a licensed long-term care facility (Plan B);

Individuals and dependents eligible for the Ministry of Social Services and Housing Medical Benefits program (Plan C).

GROUP 2 Universal Pharmacare.

Partial government assistance, represented by 80 per cent reimbursement of calendar year costs above an annual deductible, is provided on behalf of every British Columbian not covered in Group 1 who is registered with Medical Services Plan of British Columbia. Those receiving fully-paid benefits from union- or employer-sponsored plans, or from the Department of Veteran Affairs, the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs or Workers' Compensation, will continue to be covered by those programs. The annual deductible for claimants in 1986 was \$200.

Pharmacare may provide payment or reimbursement for some therapeutic medications which are prescribed by a physician, dentist or podiatrist. Those medications must be included in Schedule A, Part 1, and Schedule A, Part 3, Division 2 of the British Columbia Pharmacists Act and must be obtained from a licensed pharmacy located in British Columbia. In addition, Pharmacare covers syringes for diabetics, ostomy supplies and designated permanent prosthetic appliances.

Pharmacare operates with a permanent staff of 50 people. In 1986-87, an estimated 844,000 residents of the province benefited from the program.

The 1986-87 expenditures for this program were \$163.5 million.

SECTION IX HOUSING

HOUSING

**BRITISH COLUMBIA HOUSING
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION****Introduction**

The British Columbia Housing Management Commission (BCHMC) manages provincial and federal-provincial housing and property on behalf of the Ministry of Social Services and Housing. It is a provincial government agency authorized by the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing Act and by Order in Council No. 2388 dated September 7, 1978. The commission administers rent supplement programs, allocates and delivers new social housing and develops provincial social housing policy. BCHMC seeks to effectively manage the existing housing supply, to deliver new housing units and to assist only those in need.

British Columbia governments have long been committed to assisting people unable to provide for their own basic necessities. BCHMC provides adequate and affordable housing to those without sufficient financial resources and to those with special design requirements not provided by the private sector.

In addition, under Canada's constitution, housing falls within provincial jurisdiction. As such, the federal government has been transferring its responsibilities to the provinces. In 1986, the provincial housing role was expanded to include the delivery of all federal-provincial cost-shared social housing.

Although BCHMC does not administer any specific legislation, its expenditures are authorized under the National Housing Act and the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing Act.

BCHMC's major clients are its tenants who live in nonprofit housing or who receive rent supplements. An estimated 86,000 households in British Columbia currently experience significant housing problems. The national definition of this problem is known as core need and includes those who must spend more than 30 per cent of their income to obtain suitable and adequate shelter. Many disabled people also have difficulty finding adequate housing to meet their needs.

BCHMC works with architects, engineers, developers, building trades contractors, landscapers and various types of consultants, and impacts on organizations such as nonprofit housing societies, social service agencies, client advocacy groups and other organizations within the building trades.

Fiscal Year Summary

In 1986, BCHMC managed 7,776 units in 110 developments throughout the province which provided housing for 1,132 new tenants. BCHMC administered rent supplement agreements for 12,829 additional units, although only 4,813 households actually received rent supplements. The remaining households were able to afford the full recovery cost of their housing without subsidy and generally lived in older housing. In addition, 1,843 units were approved for development under the new social housing programs.

Year's Highlights**Proposal Calls**

Activity under the new Social Housing Programs is determined through a joint planning process with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Based on the distribution of need and market considerations, housing units are allocated in various communities throughout the province.

Commission staff issue a call for proposals in the communities which are targeted for social housing projects. Submissions are reviewed and evaluated on the basis of cost, long term operating efficiency, and how adequately they meet the locational and design requirements of the clients to be served. Projects which best meet these criteria are recommended for conditional approval to the Minister of Social Services and Housing. Final approval is granted after sponsors fulfill outstanding requirements such as rezoning, development permits and approved working drawings.

The total construction cost of projects approved during 1986 was \$57.3 million.

Capital Maintenance Program

A tenant newsletter was introduced as a method of informing tenants about major renovation projects planned for their developments. In 1986, approximately \$9,000,000 was spent on major building and grounds reconstruction. Approximately 700 units had new flooring installed, 400 units had kitchens rebuilt, 500 units had bathrooms updated and 950 units had roofs redecked.

Life and Safety

During 1986, \$480,000 was spent on updating fire protection systems. The first computerized fire protection system was installed. In addition, the number of buildings with direct monitoring devices to local fire departments was increased.

Improved security was realized by the installation of new entrance doors and intercom systems at various developments throughout the province.

Forecast

The economy in British Columbia, while improving, is not yet strong enough to attract the scale of in-migration which would lead to rapid increases in housing demand. Therefore, stable conditions are expected in the housing market for the next two years. The main social housing priority will be to deliver assistance to those in need.

The design of social housing delivery programs allows a flexible response to market conditions and client requirements, either through new construction, sponsored by non-profit societies, or the leasing of private market units. In either case, housing will be provided in the most cost efficient way possible. This will be in co-ordination with the private market rather than in competition with it.

The British Columbia Housing Management Commission issues a separate annual report each calendar year.

Figure 4

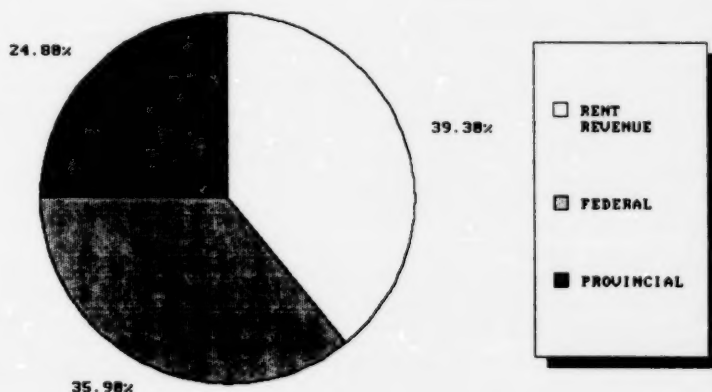
BCHMC FUNDING SOURCES

Table 98
Net Costs of the Commission's Activities

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Provincial Share</u>
Social Housing		
Section 40 *	\$15,962,995	\$ 3,965,247 **
Section 44 ***	9,315,559	4,657,780
Rent Supplements	7,646,043	3,949,771
Provincial Programs	<u>1,470,163</u>	<u>1,470,163</u>
TOTAL	\$34,394,760	\$14,042,961

* Under Section 40 of the National Housing Act, public housing is federally-provincially cost-shared on a 75 per cent - 25 per cent basis.

** Through federal-provincial agreement, cost-sharing of amortization is on a project-by-project basis. When aggregated, the total is approximately 75 per cent - 25 per cent.

*** Section 44 and rent supplement programs are cost-shared equally.

B.C. HOME MORTGAGE OFFICE

Introduction to Programs and Services

The Home Mortgage Office administers the following four statutes:

- Provincial Home Acquisition Act
- Home Purchase Assistance Act
- Home Conversion and Leasehold Loan Act
- Homeowner Interest Assistance Act

In September 1986, with the dissolution of the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing, responsibility for the operation of the Home Mortgage Office was transferred to the Ministry of Social Services and Housing.

During the year, the implementation of a new computer system to manage the home mortgage system was a high priority. The new computer system manages the mortgage accounts of the office and provides faster and more efficient application approval, better accounting control, more comprehensive reporting and immediate response to public inquiries. It is expected that the home mortgage system will be fully implemented by the 1987 calendar year end.

During the 1986-87 fiscal year, the Home Mortgage Office spent \$286,786 in administration costs and employed 64 full time employees.

B.C. Second Mortgage Program

The B.C. Second Mortgage Program assists most applicants to acquire a home they could not otherwise afford. The program also provides clients with the social benefits which accrue from homeownership and stimulates the labor-intensive home construction market.

Typically, a first mortgage company finances no more than 75 per cent of the value of the property, requiring a 25 per cent down payment from the home buyer. The B.C. Second Mortgage Program, available since 1969, provides the home purchaser with the additional 20 per cent financing, so that his down payment can be as little as 5 per cent.

The B.C. Second Mortgage Program is administered under the authority of the Home Purchase Assistance Act, introduced in June 1976.

Clients of this program, including many first time homebuyers, have limited financial resources to apply to their purchase of a moderately priced single family dwelling, condominium or mobile home. To ensure the second mortgage program benefits those who need it most, the minister has defined moderately priced homes as those costing \$85,000 or less. This limit is tied to market prices and is set at a level which ensures a significant proportion of homes for sale in every community falls within the limit.

Although the second mortgage program is not available to commercial builders, they receive indirect benefits from the program which provides a source of funding to their prospective new home clients. As such, the program acts as an economic stimulus and encourages commercial builders to build moderately priced homes.

Fiscal Year Summary

During fiscal year 1986-87, 7,700 B.C. second mortgages were issued for a total of \$73 million. This is an increase over last fiscal year when 6,735 mortgages were issued totalling \$61 million. The increase is due in part to continuing favorable home prices and interest rates.

Primarily as a result of foreclosure action by the first mortgagee, \$3.7 million was written off in bad debts on total loan receivables of \$283.9 million.

Forecast

The past year has seen a continuation in the trend towards more stable interest rates which has boosted the confidence of both the homebuying public and the commercial builders; as a result real estate transactions have increased in volume. This growth is expected to continue as long as interest rates and house prices remain favorable.

B.C. Home Program

The B.C. Home Program was introduced in October 1982, when interest rates climbed to an all-time high and many homeowners were unable to meet their greatly increased monthly mortgage payment. The Home Mortgage Office, under the authority of the Homeowner

Interest Assistance Act, helped by lending monthly cash benefits to homeowners whose mortgage interest rate was greater than 12 per cent.

The B.C. Home Program was a short-term program which paid benefits from October 1982 until September, 1985. The sum of benefits received could be held, interest free, until September 1986, at which time the loan was repayable. Approximately \$102 million was paid in loans to more than 50,000 homeowners during the payment period.

For those homeowners unable to make full cash repayment of their loan by September 30, 1986, the option of repaying by monthly installment, over a period ranging from one to five years, at 11.5 per cent interest, was made available by signing a repayment agreement. Further provision was made for those, who due to proven financial hardship, were unable to repay their loans under a five year agreement. In such cases, individual agreements, reflecting the client's current ability to pay, were negotiated. In anticipation of an improvement in the client's financial situation, such agreements are subject to annual review.

Fiscal Year Summary

As at March 31, 1987, there were 11,000 outstanding loans, totalling \$24.2 million. Approximately 8,500 clients were making regular monthly payments under the terms of a repayment agreement.

Efforts continue to negotiate agreements with the clients who have not yet made arrangements for the repayment of their loans. Until a loan is repaid, the Homeowner Interest Assistance Act certificate remains as a charge on the client's property title.

During the year, a total of \$768,000 was written off in bad debts, primarily as a result of foreclosure action initiated by the first mortgagee.

Forecast

During the next four years, the main activity will be in the collection of outstanding loans. It is expected that the majority will be repaid under the terms of a repayment agreement, most of which will conclude by September 1991, or as a result of a property sale.

For the remaining accounts where the office has been unable to negotiate terms of repayment with the client, alternate remedies will be sought with the assistance of the Ministry of Attorney General, such as foreclosure, where feasible, or application for judgement through the courts, in an effort to aid collection of these outstanding debts to the crown.

Conversion Mortgage Loan Program

The program is designed to make more effective use of existing buildings, particularly residential, commercial and industrial properties in the downtown cores of larger urban centres, by providing mortgage funds to create rental housing units in these buildings. The level of approved funding is determined by the amount required to cover the proposed conversion costs to a maximum of \$25,000 per unit, estimated value of the project after conversion and the amount of the owner's equity. This program is administered under the authority of the Home Conversion and Leasehold Loan Act introduced in July 1974.

Clients of this program are building owners who can prove to the office that a conversion proposal is viable and sound.

Fiscal Year Summary

This program achieves the objectives of provincial and municipal governments to stimulate downtown revitalization and to help ensure a mix of commercial and residential development. During the past few years, this program has been used extensively by developers to convert several derelict warehouse buildings in the old-town area of lower Johnson Street in Victoria into attractive commercial-residential facilities.

During 1986-87, four conversion mortgage loans totalling \$775,000 were approved, creating 31 new rental housing units. In the previous year, five loans totalling \$763,000 were approved, creating 35 new rental units.

Forecast

Applications for funding under this program will likely remain stable or increase if there is a drop in the residential vacancy rates. Changes to the building code governing the conversion of older buildings has made the renovating of these buildings more attractive over the past two years. Because these projects are not required to meet standards for new construction, they are more economically feasible to undertake.